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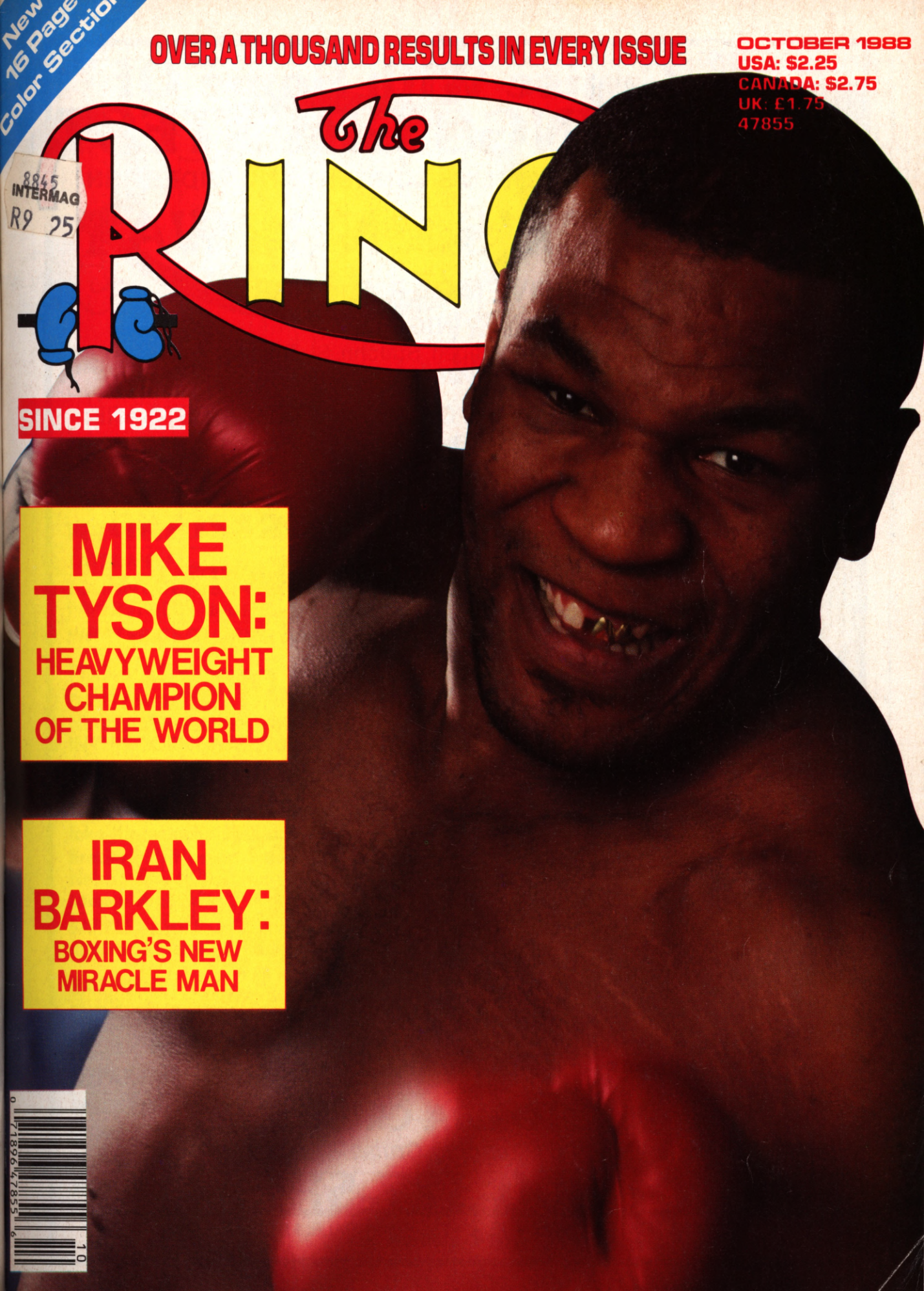

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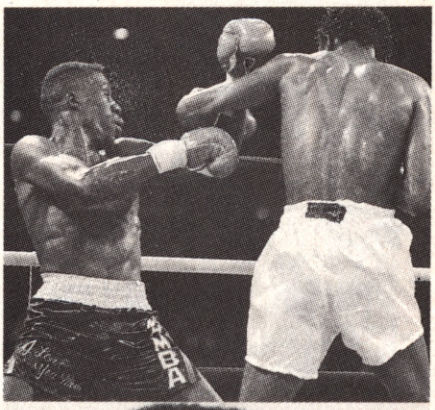

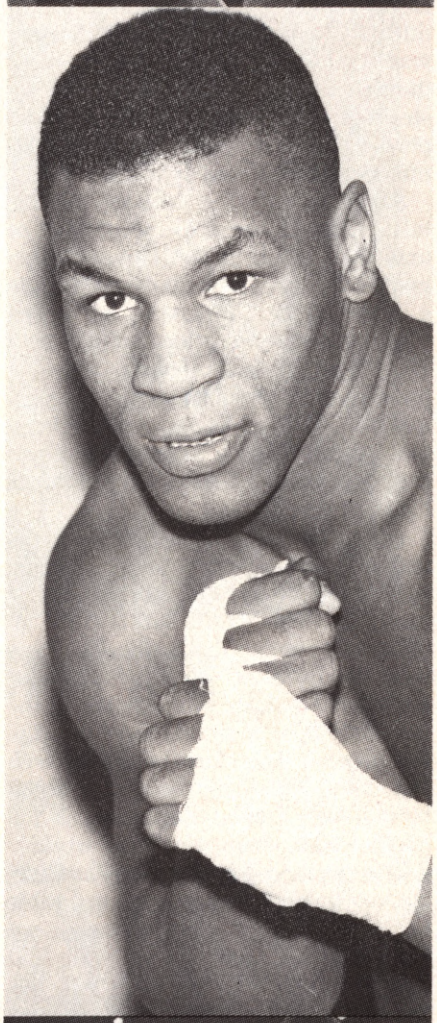

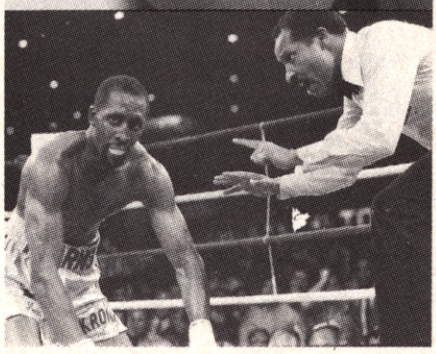

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RINGSIDE

THE RING RECOGNIZES KALAMBAY AS MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMP

WHEN SUGAR RAY LEONARD RE-retired after beating Marvelous Marvin Hagler for the undisputed middleweight title last year, the 160-pound division was suddenly without a champion for the first time in decades. Naturally, instead of all working together, the Alphabet Boys each held their own box-offs and the title was split three ways.

Since that time, *The Ring* has held the title vacant in the hope some sort of unification would be forthcoming. When none of the three new titleholders made a move in that direction, we urged Hagler to return to action and fight then WBC boss Thomas Hearns, with the promise that the winner would be recognized by *The Ring* as the genuine champion. However, since we made that proposal in the April '88 issue, several things have happened.

First, Hearns lost his third of the crown to Iran Barkley in a stunning upset. Then, Hagler retired in favor of a career in the movies. It has become increasingly obvious that unless *The Ring* took the initiative, boxing may never again have a clear-cut champion at the top of the sport's second most prestigious division. Therefore, beginning with this issue, *The Ring* recognizes Zaire-born Italian Sumbu Kalambay as the middleweight champion of the world.

This decision was not made arbitrarily. As a linear champion was impossible under the current circumstances, we have used the next best criterion and awarded the title to the boxer who has the strongest claim based on victories over other claimants and contenders.

While Kalambay owns only one of the Alphabet belts (WBA), he won it by beating Barkley, who holds the WBC trinket. Though IBF champ Frank Tate and his next challenger, Michael Nunn, are both fine young fighters, neither has the kind of record Kalambay does against top contenders. Not only has Kalambay whipped Barkley, he also handed Herol Graham and Mike McCallum the only defeats of their pro careers. Throw in his recent defense over Robbie Sims and Kalambay's championship credentials are quite impressive.

Welcome to the ranks of middleweight champions, Mr. Kalambay. And good luck. You'll certainly have your work cut out trying to live up to the legendary fighters who proceeded you.

Nigel Collins

P.S.
I would be amiss if I let Hagler's retirement pass without comment. Marvin has always been one of my personal favorites and I wish him the best of luck in his new career. A full tribute to his future Hall-of-Famer will appear in a future issue.

"The Bible of Boxing"
Established 1922 by
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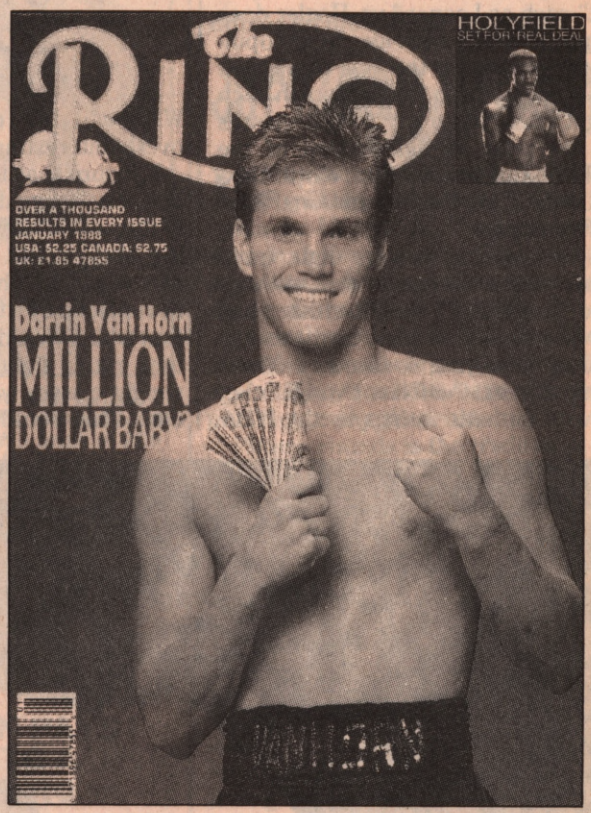

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COME OUT WRITING

BACK TO THE PAST

BEING AN AVID BOXING FAN I am upset with what the fight game has evolved into today. Its popularity and appeal to the general public has noticeably declined over the past decade. Only in the rare case of a "Superfight" such as Leonard vs. Hagler does its appeal briefly increase. In my opinion, the reason for the lack of interest is because of three titleholders in each weight class, too many weight classes and the poor ratings system of the World Boxing Association, World Boxing Council and the International Boxing Federation.

In the past there were eight traditional weight divisions and each of these "traditional" weight classes had only one champion who ruled over the 10 most deserving contenders. Three champions in 17 different weight classes with pathetic ratings by the WBA, WBC and IBF doesn't make for an overly interesting sport.

I'm sure that if an official organization was formed to look into the activities of the governing bodies of boxing, they would all be found corrupt and would be shut down. They could be replaced by a federally run organization which would be honest and consistent, rating fighters in the traditional weight classes with only one champ in each. This would bring popularity back to the sport of champions and boxing would regain its place at the top of sports.

GRAHAM RAGSDALE
Kincardine, Ontario, Canada

READER RATES HAGLER

I READ YOUR RATINGS OF THE middleweight champions with great relish (June '88). I found the article to be educational and judicious in its judgment. While reading the article, I couldn't help but think about where Marvin Hagler would have stood amongst all those middleweight champions. Since Hagler is now retired, I would like to offer my own evaluation of Hagler's career and I'm wondering if *The Ring* would publish it. I have followed *The Ring* magazine's criteria exactly, although your editors may dispute some of my findings.

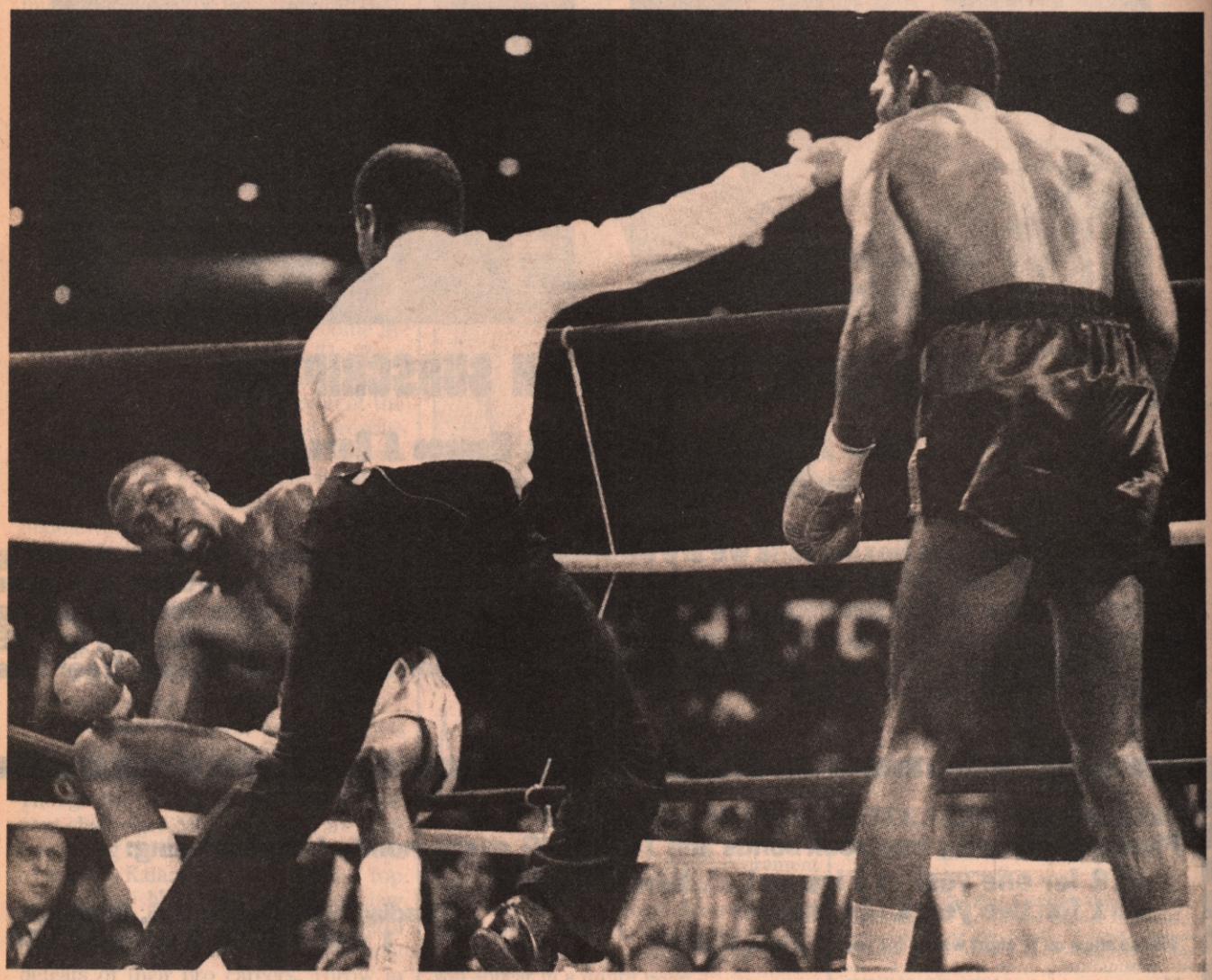


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

It looks like the end of an era as referee Richard Steele rushes in to rescue Tommy Hearns at the conclusion of his bout with Iran Barkley. Reader Gary Merrill pays tribute to a fallen hero in this month's "Come Out Writing."

Here is my chart for Hagler:

Defense	9
Determination	10
Durability	10
Hand Speed	9
Footwork	9
Punching power	10
Cut resistance	8
Natural ability	9
Quality of opposition	8.5
Historical impact	10
Total	92.5

MATTHEW DIBAISE
Delran, N.J.

MORE MIDDLEWEIGHT MUSING

HAVING JUST READ THE ARTICLE "The Ring Rates The Middleweight Champions" in your June '88 issue, I felt I had to write a letter of congratulations for what was obviously a well written and well researched piece of journalism.

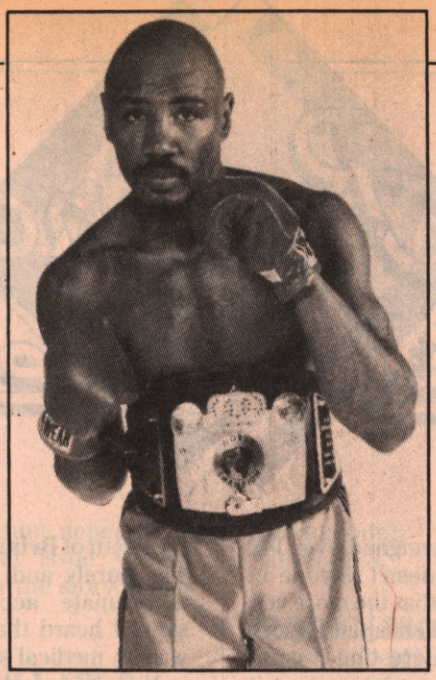
The choice of Sugar Ray Robinson as the greatest middleweight champion of all time was excellent, though maybe somewhat obvious, due to the fact you saw fit to exclude Marvin Hagler and Ray Leonard.

Anyone who read your article will see for themselves what a great past the middleweight division has had. However, what of the future? Will what may be boxing's finest division have a future that comes close to matching its past? My answer is yes. Fighters such as Frank Tate, Michael Nunn and the up-and-coming British fighter Nigel Benn look set to provide us with some memorable fistic moments. Who knows? Maybe one of the aforementioned three will one day re-unite the middleweight title which has been vacant since Leonard retired. Or maybe one of them will tempt Sugar Ray to abandon his current state of inactiveness for what could be one of boxing's greatest fights of all time.

STEPHEN O'DONNELL
Hamilton, Scotland

MITCHELL AND LEE OVERLOOKED

I WAS MOST SURPRISED TO SEE that you did not give Brian Mitchell, WBA junior lightweight champion, an honorable mention for your "Fighter of the Year" award. Brian made four successful defenses of his title in 1987, in addition to winning a non-title bout. A fantastic year for a true fighting champ. Another boxer whom you overlooked is Seung-Hoon Lee, who impressed with wins over Jorge Diaz and Jose Sanabria.



Reader Matthew DiBaise rates former middleweight champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler and comes up with a score of 92.5 out of a possible 100.

G. SINGER
Cape Town, South Africa

HEARNS FAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN HERO

HOW SAD IT WAS TO WATCH Tommy Hearns lose to Iran Barkley. For me, it was an end of an era. Although winning, Hearns has looked unsteady in recent contests. All credit to Barkley. He did what had to be done and was gracious to Hearns after the fight. But I believe Tommy was a "shot" fighter and Barkley would be deluding himself if he thinks he defeated "the" Thomas Hearns.

I cannot praise Hearns enough as a superb fighter and my heart goes out to him. I hope he retires because I don't want any more pretenders taking glory from the man. Tommy, thanks for all your great fights.

GARY MERRILL
Sheffield, England

ARGUELLO VS. COONEY

IN THE "PUNCH/COUNTERPUNCH" section of your July '88 issue, Alexis Arguello asked: "... but who the hell is Cooney?" I'm reminded that Arguello blamed his first loss to Aaron Pryor on his trainer. If *The Ring* staff insists on continuing their hate campaign against Cooney, they will have to choose proxies who are more credible than Arguello.

ROBERT M. FERGUSON
Fort Scott, Kansas

Editor's Note: Hate campaign?

IS ANYBODY LISTENING OUT THERE IN ALPHABET LAND?

I RECENTLY READ THAT SOON THE IBF will change the length of its title fights to 12 rounds. They apparently gave in under pressure from the other organizing bodies, who have also changed from 15 to 12 rounds.

Does this mean we will never see a 15-round world championship fight again? If so, it will be extremely disappointing to say the least.

Fifteen rounds is the traditional distance for a championship fight in any language. Shortening it would be like changing a baseball game to seven innings or a basketball game to three quarters.

The claim that shortening the distance makes fights safer is the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard. The 13th thru 15th rounds aren't any more dangerous than the first or second rounds. A fighter risks his life any time he steps into the ring. Instead of shortening the distance, they should appoint only the very best referees in world title fights. If a fighter is getting injured, it is the referee's responsiblity to step in . . . whether it be the first, 12th or 15th round.

It's bad enough that boxing fans have to put up with these organizations brutalizing the sport with so many divisions and titles, but now they've gone too far. Is there anything we can do?

TRENTON EDWARDS
Sacramento, CA

Editor's Note: As stated on numerous occasions, THE RING supports the traditional 15-round distance for all world championship bouts — as do the vast majority of our readers. However, the Alphabet Boys don't seem to give a damn about what the fans want. After all, fans are only the ones who foot the bill. But let's not go down without a fight. Here's the phone number for the IBF: 201-621-7200. Give them a call . . . and a piece of your mind.

Round One

By Phill Marder

WHAT A LETDOWN!

The world has a new heavyweight champion, and he was crowned the correct way. **Mike Tyson** knew **Michael Spinks** had the torch, but Tyson didn't wait for Spinks to pass it, he yanked it from his grasp.

The king is dead, long live the king.

It just proves that, if left alone, boxing usually works out its disputes. The fights that should happen usually do because the people want them to happen. That Tyson/Spinks drew the interest it did is a tribute to boxing's independence from meddling sanctioning bodies and impatient television networks. They didn't want the fight, but it turned out to be the biggest money fight in history.

But one right doesn't erase a dozen wrongs. And the month of June does not indicate that boxing will be busting out all over. The sport, on television, in particular, seems to be sinking faster and faster into the circus atmosphere of professional wrestling.

With that thought in mind, I offer for your consideration a list of things I wish I'd heard or seen during the time the entire world of sports, and most of the world in general, was focused on Atlantic City.

— I wish I'd seen **George Foreman** in the ring with **Carl "The Truth" Williams** instead of Williams fighting Trevor Berbick. Then we could have found out if Big George is as bad as he's looked. And we might have found out if Williams' jaw is as fragile as it has appeared on occasion.

— I wish I'd heard USA-TV's Al Albert and Sean O'Grady tell viewers that the **Hector Camacho/Reyes Cruz** fight was a welterweight bout, not a junior welterweight bout. Each guy weighed over 142 pounds. Doesn't anyone in TV realize that the more you clutter and cheapen a sport, the less interesting it gets? And the less interesting it gets, the fewer viewers you have.

— Yes, there are people in television who realize that split titles and umpteen weight classes cause confusion, and confusion causes potential fans to tune in the NHL instead. I wish I'd heard a few of these people go public with some of the statements I heard "off the record."

— I wish I'd heard that the death of **Brian Baronet** was purely and simply an unfortunate accident. Instead I heard that Baronet was on medical suspension in New Jersey when he was killed in a South African bout.

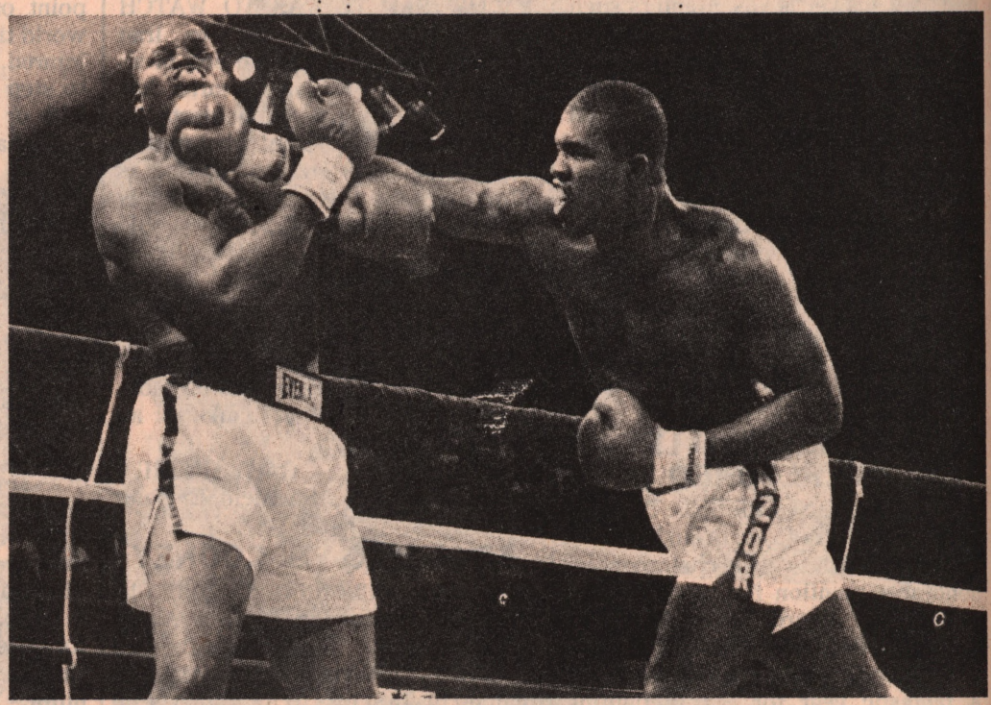
— I wish I'd heard **Mike Tyson** name the writers he considers ... well, in keeping with the atmosphere of a family magazine, let's just say Tyson considers them objectionable. I'd probably agree with him.

— I wish I'd seen more about the fight and less about the turmoil surrounding Tyson before the bout. And after the bout, for that matter.

— I wish I'd seen a writer from somewhere other than New York City on a panel discussing the Tyson/Spinks bout, before or after. Believe it or not, there are many fine boxing writers who don't write for New York dallies. One, San Francisco's **Jack Fiske,** recently won the Nat Fleischer Award for excellence in boxing journalism. He should have won it years ago.

— I wish I'd seen **Michael Spinks** in the ring ... longer.

— I wish I had heard a certain ring announcer introduce referee **Steve Smoger** as "Double S" before a wrestling match and not a boxing contest.



Reggie Gross (left) feels the power in Razor Ruddock's right hand just before going down to a TKO defeat on the Tyson-Spinks undercard. Ruddock didn't look ready for "Iron Mike," but how about a match with George Foreman for the streaking Canadian?

PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

Round One

Nicknames for referees? Next thing you know we'll be introduced to ringside physician **Frank "Doctor of Love" Doggett.**

— I wish I had heard **Chuck Hull** or **Jimmy Lennon** do the ringside introductions before Tyson/Spinks instead of the undefeeeeted, undeeesputed king of wind, Michaelllllll Bufferrrrrr. Doesn't he know people come to watch a fight, not an orator?

— I wish I had heard someone ask **Larry Hazzard** a follow-up question when Hazzard explained he decided Tyson/Spinks would be 12 rounds instead of 15 because Tyson said he wanted 12 and Spinks said it didn't matter. The follow-up question would have been, "Hey Larry, what would you have decided if Tyson said he wanted a five-round fight?"

—On HBO's delayed telecast, I wish I had heard **Larry Merchant** ... No, come to think of it, I wish I hadn't heard Larry Merchant.

— I wish I had heard George Foreman, Carl Williams, **Buster Douglas, Razor Ruddock** and **Frank Bruno** say, "After what Tyson did to Spinks, I don't want no part of him, millions or no millions."

— I wish I had seen one boxing writer who repeatedly knocks a fighter for staying in the game too long praise Tyson's retirement announcement as the wisest step. You know, quit while you're ahead — or while you've still got a head.

— I wish I had seen **Jim Jacobs** at ringside for Tyson/Spinks.

— And most of all, I wish I had seen or heard **Charlie Spina.** Spina, *The Ring's* "Veteran Boxers Beat" writer and a fine judge died just before the big match and only a few days before the "In This Corner" I had done on him appeared in the August issue. Charlie never saw the story. I wish he had.

HULL OF A MISTAKE

The above-mentioned **Chuck Hull** is suing **Bob Arum** and Top Rank, who have not been using Hull's services. Arum reportedly told the *Las Vegas Bullet*, "Hull could not cut the mustard anymore." Sorry Bob, but I just don't relish some of these new hot dogs taking Hull's roll ... er, role.

READ 'EM OR WEEP

A couple of boxing's best newsletters have been conspicuous in their absence, but others are filling in admirably. So take your choice, weep over the ones departed, or read the new offerings. The **Mid-American Boxing Association's** Mid-American Boxing News is good and it's free. Just contact PO Box 20125, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46220. And **"Ringside: Illinois"** by *The Ring's* Illinois correspondent **Jeff Carlson** is wild, wacky, fun to read and informative. Even the cartoons are great. There is a fee, $6 for a half a year, $11 for a year and $20 for two years, but it's a winner and well worth the price. Anyway, Jeff needs the bread. Send it to PO Box 59173, Schaumburg, Illinois, 60159-0173.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HI!

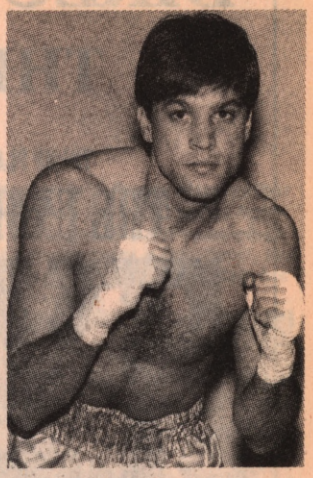
Speaking of *Ring* correspondents, no one could be Boulder (couldn't resist) than our Colorado representative **Ed Walsh.** Walsh contacted **Federico Pena,** mayor of Denver, to implore His Honor to bring back the state athletic commission that was abolished in 1977, leaving boxing unregulated. Pena wrote back asking Walsh to sit on a committee to do just that.

Walsh also reported the May 27 death of trainer **Jack Terrell,** who lived in Denver. Terrell, who made his mark in Philadelphia before heading west, was active at Denver's 20th Street Gym since the mid-70s.

"Jack was a quiet and private man who never spoke a word of his association with some of boxing's greatest names (Beau Jack, Joe Louis, Jack Blackburn, among others) while tending to Denver's little-known crop of fighters," Walsh wrote. "Jack Terrell died a revered and respected professor of life as well as The Sweet Science and will be sorely missed."

ROSIN DUST

After he was knocked out by **Michael Dokes, James Pritchard** was dropped by his management team, a syndicate of Louisville businessmen, then arrested for breaking into cars to steal stereo systems. In the meantime, he managed to fight a draw with South Africa's **Johnny DuPlooy** ... Yankee **Dave Winfield** and Mike Tyson's mother-in-law **Ruth Roper** settled their lawsuit out of court. Roper claimed Winfield gave her a sexually transmitted disease in 1986. Winfield claimed, "I know I'm clean. That's hitting below the belt." Couldn't have phrased it better myself ... Two days after losing to **Roger Mayweather, Harold Brazier** was back on the job at Driesbach Cadillac in South Bend, Indiana.



Brian Baronet was still under medical suspension in New Jersey when he died as a result of injuries suffered in a bout with Kenny Vice back home in South Africa.

PUNCH LINES

At a Trump Castle birthday party for **Donald Trump,** paper crowns were provided for guests. **Rock Newman,** of Spinks' camp, snatched one off the head of former heavyweight champion **Jersey Joe Walcott,** telling Walcott, "**Bob Lee** just stripped you!" □

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WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Mike Tyson KO1 Michael Spinks
(Won World Heavyweight Championship)
Oliver McCall W10 David Jaco
Carl Williams W12 Trevor Berbick
Donovan Ruddock TKO2 Reggie Gross
Anthony Witherspoon TKO5 Alex Stanley
Eric Curry W10 Curtis Isaac
Jose Ribalta KO1 Jose Garcia
Renaldo Snipes TKO8 Terry Armstrong
Mike Rouse W10 Bobby Crabtree
George Foreman TKO4 Carlos Hernandez
Michael Dokes TKO1 Andrew Stokes
Adilson Rodrigues TKO3 Dave Garside
Johnny DuPlooy D10 James Pritchard

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Chong-Hwa Park KO6 Dal-Ho Ahn
Graciano Rocchigiani W15 Nicky Walker
(Retained IBF Super Middleweight Title)
Virgil Hill W12 Ramzi Hassan
(Retained WBA Title)
Charles Williams TKO11 Richard Caramanolis
(Retained IBF Title)
Jeff Harding TKO5 Jorge Salgado
Willy Featherstone TKO9 Dave Fiddler
Frankie Swindell W12 Jeff Thompson

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Brett Lally TKO9 Charles Oosthuizen
Lupe Aquino W12 Royan Hammond
Iran Barkley KO3 Thomas Hearns
(Won WBC Title)
Sumbu Kalambay W12 Robbie Sims
(Retained WBA Title)
Herol Graham TKO5 James Cook
Steve Collins W10 Lester Yarborough
Dwight Davidson W10 Phillip Morefield
Aaron Davis TKO9 Tyrone Moore
Matt Farrago W10 Jake Torrance
Richard Burton W10 Tim Knight
Anthony Logan W12 Nino Avaldino
Jacques Leblanc W12 Danny Winters
Muhammad Eltassi TKO11 Terry Jesmer
Edip Secovic KO1 Brian Grant
(Won WAA Jr. Middleweight Title)
Jorge Maysonet TKO1 Milton Leaks
Hector Rosario TKO3 Pat Prisco
John Mugabi KO3 Gonzalo Montes
Michael Nunn KO2 Ron Daniels
Nobuyuki Tabata KO9 Sang-Shik Kim
Mike McCallum TKO2 David McCluskey

WELTERWEIGHTS

Roger Mayweather W12 Harold Brazier
(Retained WBC Super Lightweight Title)
Meldrick Taylor W10 Martin Quiroz
Frankie Warren KO1 Efrain Nieves
Hector Camacho W10 Reyes Cruz
Derrick Kelly W12 Young Dick Tiger
Maurice Blocker TKO5 Orlando Orosco
Chuck Glover W10 Jerry Bilyeau

Harold Brazier rips into Roger Mayweather during his bid to win the WBC super lightweight title in Las Vegas. Brazier came close to putting the champ away a few times, but Mayweather always fought back to retain his belt via a split decision.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Edwin Rosario TKO3 Ramiro Lozano
Ashton Wilson D12 Desborne Seaton
Mauro Martelli W12 Elfisio Galici
Thomas N'Kalankete KO6 Lloyd Christie
Bryant Paden W10 Antonio DeBarros
Angel Cruz W10 Saoul Mamby
Akinobu Hiranaka KO1 Seiji Nagasawa
Shark Ishihara W10 Tadafumi Miura
Saoul Mamby W10 Glenwood Brown
Kenny Vice KO10 Brian Baronet

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Luca DeLorenzi DQ9 Mark Adams
Brian Mitchell W10 Danilo Cabrera
Renato Cornett W12 Tony Miller
Louie Lomeli W10 John Duplessis
Barry McGuigan TKO4 Tomas Da Cruz
Azumah Nelson TKO9 Lupe Suarez
(Retained WBC Super Featherweight Title)
Gino Gelormino TKO12 Mike Grow
Jackie Beard W10 Margarito Marquez
Piero Morello W12 Raymond Armand
Juan Laporte TKO3 Sylvester Kennon
Tracy Spann KO1 Raul Zalazar
Tracy Harris Patterson TKO3 Jay James
Bobby Chacon W10 Bobby Jones
Iwao Otomo TKO6 Hideya Yamashiro
Shin-Heung Lee KO3 In-Ho Kim
Chil-Sung Chun KO3 Samor Donjadee
Tae-Shik Chun KO3 Hilbert Aragon

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Antonio Esparragoza D12 Marcos Villasana
(Retained World Title)
Juan Estrada W12 Bernardo Pinango
(Won WBA Jr. Featherweight Title)
Carlos Romero KO1 Jorge Ramirez
Steve McCrory W12 Jose Ramirez
Richard Reilly W12 Alan Whitten
Barrington Francis TKO4 Clinton Hannah
Hugo Aguiano W12 Abe Gomez
Jesus Salud W10 Yoo-Woon Park
Minoru Mitsui TKO4 Keiji Koizumi
Renaldo Carter KO4 Mario Lozano

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Hurley Snead KO1 Omar Garcia
Victor Cruz KO1 Jorge Acosta
Shunichi Nakajima TKO5 Shigenobu Nakamasa
Sung-Kil Moon KO4 Oky Pedros

FLYWEIGHTS

Hiroki Ioka D12 Napa Kiatwanchai
(Retained WBC Strawweight Title)
Leopard Tamakuma KO5 Hisashi Tokashima
Mung-Woo Yuh W12 Jose de Jesus
(Retained WBA Jr. Flyweight Title)
Welcome Ncita W10 Juan Rodriguez
Joey Olivo W12 Fernando Varguez
Miguel Mercedes W10 Yul-Woo Lee
Bi-Won Chung W10 Ming-Ung Suh
Visanuchai Kiatsonthaya KO6 Trang T. Boonlert
Ray Medel W10 Paul Gonzalez

DAVEY MOORE: 1959-1988

Tribute To A Fighter

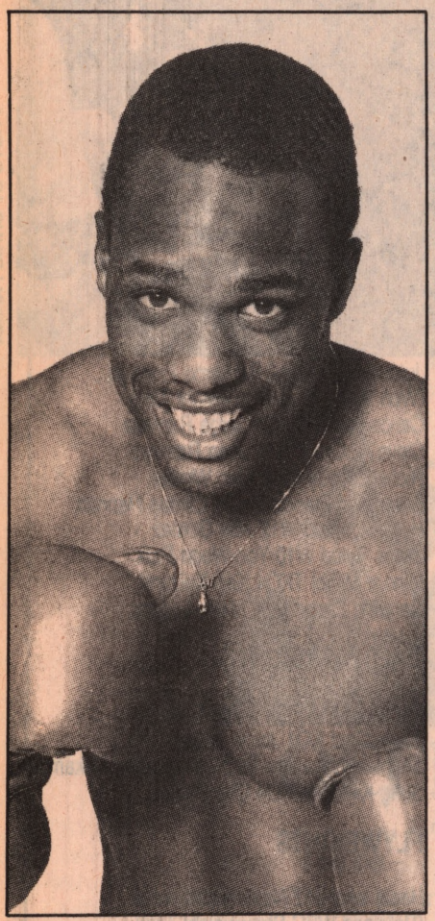


PHOTO BY SHELTON MINOR

by John Reeves

IF HOLLYWOOD WAS TO CREATE STILL another boxing tragedy, if filmmakers were to once again illustrate the quick fame but disastrous fatalities for so many participants in the sport of boxing, the movie could be no more real than the true life career and recent death of Davey Moore.

Moore, the former WBA junior middleweight champion, is dead.

Remember when Moore was a flashy young amateur with the bright smile and the crowd-pleasing style who won four New York Golden Gloves championships? Remember the highly touted "Tomorrow's Champion" who raced through eight opponents before knocking out Tadashi Mihara in Tokyo to win the title? Do you recollect the frightful night when the kid left half of his jaw in a dentist's office, later to be knocked out by one of the fiercest fighters of all time, Roberto Duran? Remember how quickly he became "Yesterday's Champion?" Remember how he finished his career as an "opponent?"

I first met Moore as a kid bucking for his autograph after he won his first Golden Gloves title. I received the same autograph from him each of the following three years after he repeated the same honor. A few years later I was punching a bag in the Morrisania Youth Center in the Bronx, training for my own appearance in the Gloves, when Moore strolled in. I told him how I saw all his fights and about how I admired his skill and bravery. He thanked me by allowing me to spar with a world champion. I went one round with Moore and was so impressed I wished the fat lip he gave me would never disappear. The sight of him smiling as he instructed me how to throw a left jab properly is etched deep in my memory. I will never forget the warmth and kindness Davey exhibited that day.

Moore was 100% real, an authentic gladiator. Never pinpoint the periods of inactivity and mediocrity when examining his career. Instead, look to the years he was an active fighter. Moore was raised in an area of the Bronx where fighting was a way of life, where you fought to survive. He polished his fistic skills and raced through the amateur ranks with incredible momentum. When he became a pro he surpassed his peers, the rest of "Tomorrow's Champions," like they were standing still. Moore won his first three pro fights by decision, then knocked out his next five opponents before facing Mihara in Tokyo.

"I was supposed to be a messenger," said Moore. "I was supposed to win the title from Mihara so that I could go lose it to the South African Charlie Weir."

After taking out Mihara in six rounds, Moore traveled to Johannesburg and dropped Weir six times before stopping him in the fifth round. After two more successful title defenses over Ayub Kalule (KO10), and Gary Guiden (KO4), Moore found himself facing the ageless Duran. The boxing world was shocked when Duran stopped the heavily favored Moore in eight rounds. From there it was all downhill for the kid from the Bronx with the broad smile and chiseled features.

After four comeback victories and a full year of inactivity, Moore received a title shot from IBF champ Buster Drayton, who stopped Davey in 10 rounds.

Before Moore died he staged a second comeback in which he lost two of four fights against opponents he could have destroyed in his prime. At the end his record stood at 17-5-0 with 15 KOs; hardly indicative of his talent.

The life of Moore had been a constant fight, right up until that fateful day in June of '88 when he fought to stop a car from rolling out of control. It killed him.

I recall, after the death of Jack Dempsey, columnist/cartoonist Bill Gallo drew a cartoon picturing "boxer's heaven," an ideological utopia where deceased fighters reside. There, I envisioned the dream matches which could be made for any boxer who wished to continue his career: Sonny Liston could meet Rocky Marciano, George Dixon could battle Salvador Sanchez, Mickey Walker could take on Marcel Cerdan; the possibilities are infinite.

Now I think of Moore and the rest of the fighters who died while they were still active, or who died unrecognized because luck or chance were not with them. Include Davey in the battle of the greats, and he, like any true fighter, would box his heart out.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to have witnessed the exciting rise of Moore. And as much as it hurt me to experience his fatal fall, he was worth it.

Hail Davey Moore. The classic combinations will no longer strike. His memorable victory trot will never again circle a boxing ring. Still, I will always remember Davey Moore. He died a fighter's death, tragically.

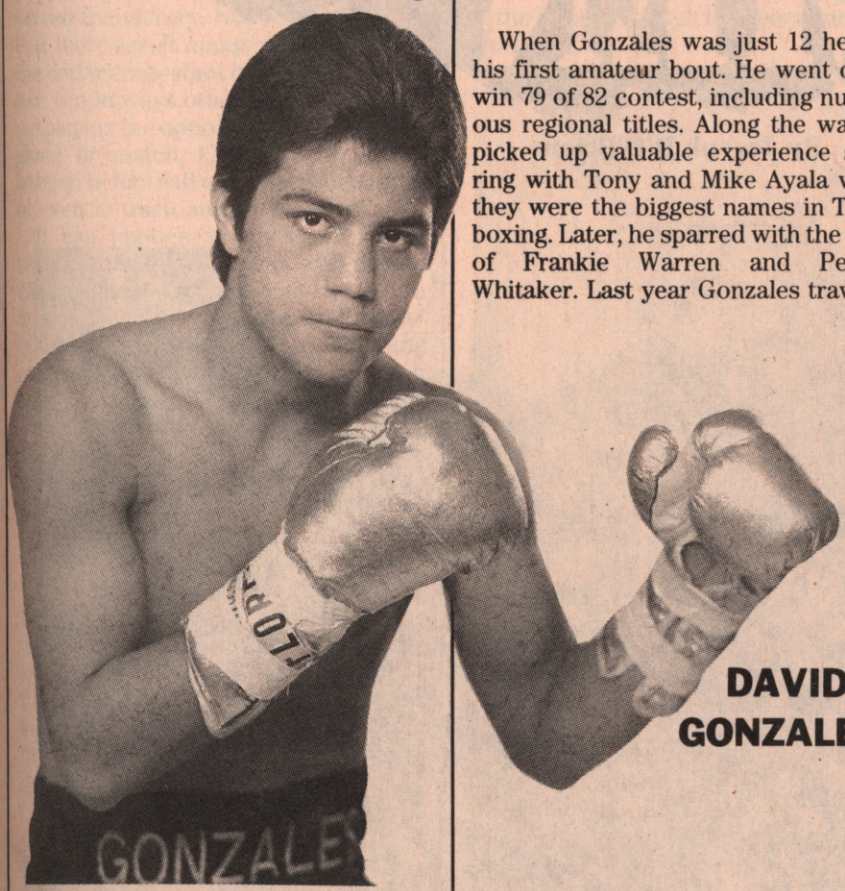
Hollywood could not have done a better job. □

NEW FACES

by Christopher Coats

THE SPORT OF BOXING IS A YOUNG man's game, but there aren't many teenagers blessed with the fighting talent of lightweight David Gonzales. A gifted boxer-puncher, the 19-year-old from San Jose might be only two or three solid wins away from a world rating.

Born in San Antonio, Texas, Gonzales turned pro when he was only 16 and fought out of Houston for two years before moving to California. Since moving west, he's scored impressive victories over a number of tough "opponent types," been praised by the local press and attracted a strong following among the paying customers.



DAVID GONZALES

"One of my first memories of boxing was staying up late to listen to the George Foreman — Jimmy Young fight on the radio," remembered Gonzales. "It made me think about what I could do in the ring.

"My dad loved boxing. He bought me a speed bag when I was about 10. When a gym opened up down the street from where we lived, I started going. At school I liked to run track, but it wasn't like boxing. Track wasn't something I really loved to do."

When Gonzales was just 12 he had his first amateur bout. He went on to win 79 of 82 contest, including numerous regional titles. Along the way he picked up valuable experience sparring with Tony and Mike Ayala when they were the biggest names in Texas boxing. Later, he sparred with the likes of Frankie Warren and Pernell Whitaker. Last year Gonzales traveled to Monte Carlo with Rocky Lockridge to help the IBF junior lightweight boss prepare for a major match.

Some of Gonzales' better wins have come over game veteran Joey Olivera, hard-nosed Martin Quiroz, brutal-punching Felix Gonzalez and previously unbeaten Dwayne Swift. Overall, Gonzales has tallied a 17-1-1 record with 13 knockouts as a pro. He has avenged the only loss of his career by outpointing rugged Eddie "Pee Wee" Parker, who had stopped him in their first encounter.

"I love to throw combinations," said Gonzales. "For me, that's the sign of a skilled fighter. It takes a lot to step in and throw eight or 10 punches, not swinging away wildly, but knowing what you're doing."

Unfortunately, things haven't always gone smoothly for Gonzales. Two years ago, he was at a party in San Antonio when a drunken reveller pulled a pistol. Gonzales attempted to grab the gun, and in the struggle a shot was fired, killing one of his friends. After a lengthy court battle, Gonzales served a week in county jail and was given short-term probation. Though it's all behind him now, he still doesn't like to talk about the tragic incident.

"I wish I could forget the whole thing," Gonzales told *The Ring*.

Gonzales is fortunate to be managed by nursery owner Frank Di Fiore, who has given David both an apartment and a job. When he talks about his manager, it is with trust and appreciation.

"There are a lot of fighters who are taken advantage of. I feel lucky, I don't worry about the business side of things."

He doesn't feel nearly so kindly towards his ring adversaries.

"I dislike all my opponents. They're getting into the ring to hurt me. Getting scars or cuts isn't something I want. It isn't an easy sport, but I love the competition and the discipline of boxing." □

THE PROFESSIONAL RING RECORD OF DAVID GONZALES

San Jose, California lightweight
Born: September 16, 1968
Manager: Frank Di Fiore

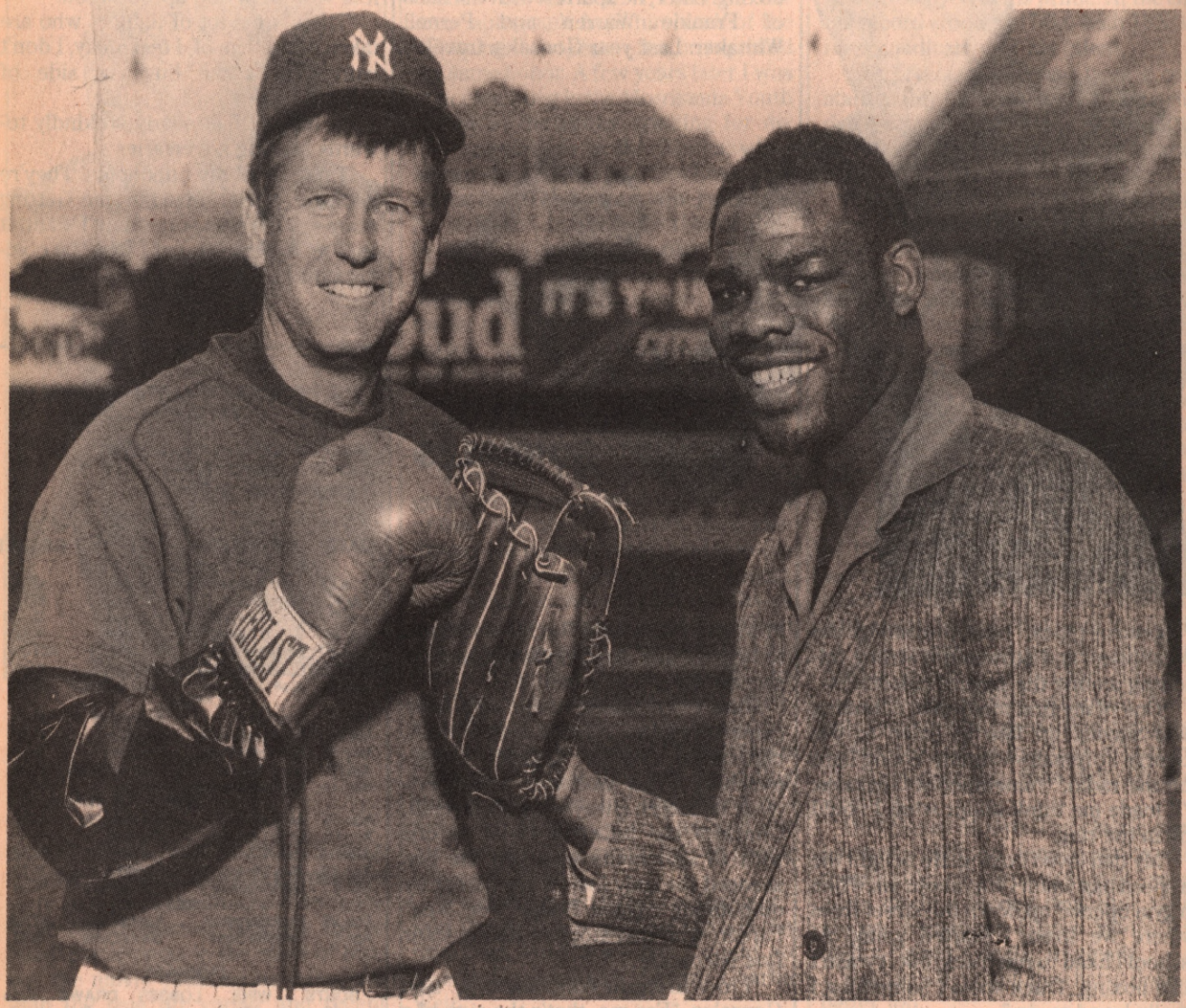
DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
	1985		
June 12	Isidro Trujano	Houston	KO3
July 17	Rogelio Leanos	Houston	KO2
Aug. 7	Steve McKyer	Houston	W 4
Aug. 27	Gilford Darton	Houston	KO 2
Sept. 11	Edward Parker	Houston	KO by 3
Nov. 12	Eddie Gonzalez	Houston	KO3
Dec. 21	Jose Gonzalez	Virginia Beach	W 4
	1986		
Mar. 1	Fred Miller	Beaumont	KO4
Apr.24	Raymundo Nino	Houston	KO2
May.29	Edward Parker	Houston	W 8
July 20	Mario Salazar	Corpus Christi	KO3
Nov. 14	Gustavo Martinez	Austin	KO3
	1987		
Mar. 15	Jerry Venzor	San Antonio	KO5
Apr. 15	Ernie Landeros	Oakland	D10
June 19	Nick Alfaro	Oakland	KO2
Aug. 19	Joey Olivera	Oakland	W10
Oct. 5	Martin Quiroz	Santa Clara	KO4
	1988		
Feb. 26	Felix Gonzalez	Santa Clara	KO10
Apr. 1	Dwayne Swift	Santa Clara	KO8

SUMMARY

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KOs
19	17	1	1	13

TATER MEN

By Joseph D'O'Brian



"Tater Man" Iran Barkley trades gloves with Tommy John of the New York Yankees, who has served up a "tater" or two in his career.

THE RECENT IRAN BARKLEY-THOMAS Hearns hostilities served to remind us of another of boxing's many charms, that is, the fact that a match is occasionally decided by one spectacular *coup de maitre* by a fighter who previously seemed to be on the way to certain defeat. This is not to say that boxing is charming because an undeserving fighter sometimes wins with a lucky punch; as far as I'm concerned, there is no such thing as a lucky punch, and nobody who wins by an honest knockout can be said to have not deserved the victory. No, what I mean is that there aren't many sports in which the better contestant or the better team can win in ways other than by steadily outplaying the opposition for the entire game or match. Certainly this can't happen in football or basketball or golf, or even in track and field events.

It can happen in chess, if you're wacky enough to find a well-played chess game exciting; it can happen in a horse race; it can happen in most other combative sports like wrestling and fencing. It can also happen in baseball. Baseball is full of stories about the time when one massive blow altered the history of the sport: There was Bobby Thomson's home run that gave the Giants the 1951 National League pennant over the heavily favored Dodgers; there was Bill Mazeroski's shot that vanquished the Yankees in the 1960 World Series; there was Carlton Fisk's death-blow in the sixth game of the 1975 Series, perhaps the most exciting World Series game ever played. And of course there was the one every American kid hit at least once in his daydreams.

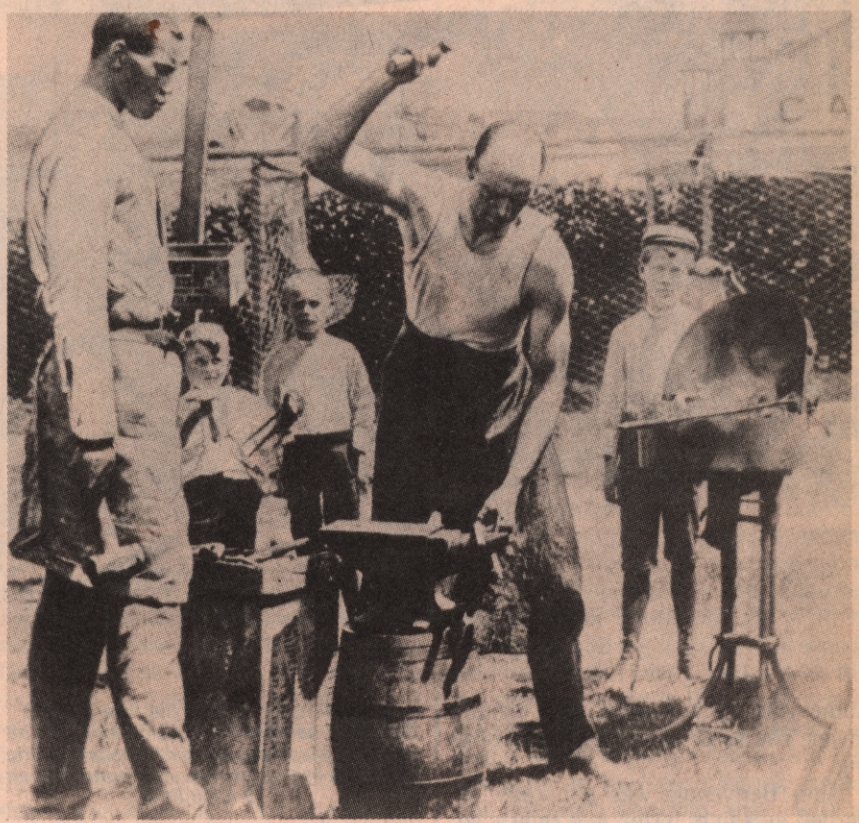
Home runs in baseball are sometimes quaintly known as "taters," and fellows who hit a lot of them can be called "tater men." There is an equivalent in boxing, and I'm not talking about the kayo artist, the fellow like Joe Louis who can hurt a guy and then chop him down with a few well-aimed smacks. I'm talking about the guy who can bring a single punch from out of nowhere and end the fight, no matter how well or how badly he was doing beforehand.

Barkley's a "tater man." He doesn't always win that way of course, but he's done it on several occasions. He has to, sometimes, because he's not a sharp boxer and he often gets a little wild if things aren't going his way. He certainly wasn't going to outbox a slick fellow like Hearns, and up until the kayo he was being outslugged as well. But he deserved to win for all that: He got his pitch and he went with it, and that was the ballgame.

Hearns was a tater man, too, when he was young and reckless. His fight with Pipino Cuevas has been overshadowed somewhat by Hearns' other, more publicized appearances, but at the time, few of us could remember a kayo as decisive as that one, when Hearns' fist seemed to go right through Cuevas' skull and the fearsome Pipino hit the floor as though he'd been turned into liquid.

Come to think of it, quite a few Kronk fighters turned out to be tater men. Milton McCrory, especially in his early fights, used to poleax these poor devils with one long right cross and practically be able to leave the ring before the ref started counting. Mike McCallum has been known to anesthetize an opponent or two with one punch. Ask Donald Curry.

You seem to find quite a few tater men in the lower weight classes, and surprisingly few of them in the heavyweight division. Among the smaller guys, there was Eder Jofre, Pancho Villa, Hiroyuki Ebihara, Billy Petrolle and others. At the middle of the weight spectrum, there was Ray Robinson (remember what he did to Fullmer?), Gus Lesnevich, Rubin Carter, Marvin Hagler, all those fellows I mentioned earlier, and then some. But among the heavyweights there weren't many, at least not among the world-class heavies, then or now. Mike Weaver? Yeah. Earnie Shavers, maybe. Bob Fitzsimmons, for sure, if you want to call him a heavyweight. But that's really about it, unless you want to include not-so-special fighters who occasionally hit the long ball, such as Mike DeJohn or Charlie Green.



One of boxing's early "tater men" was the "Fighting Blacksmith," Bob Fitzsimmons, who won the heavyweight title with a one-punch knockout over Jim Corbett.

Of course, you have to keep in mind that a lot of fellows who were famous for hitting one or two taters in a career were not generally known as powerful hitters. You see the same phenomenon in baseball, too, of course: Bobby Thomson had only average power; Bill Mazeroski seldom hit more than 10

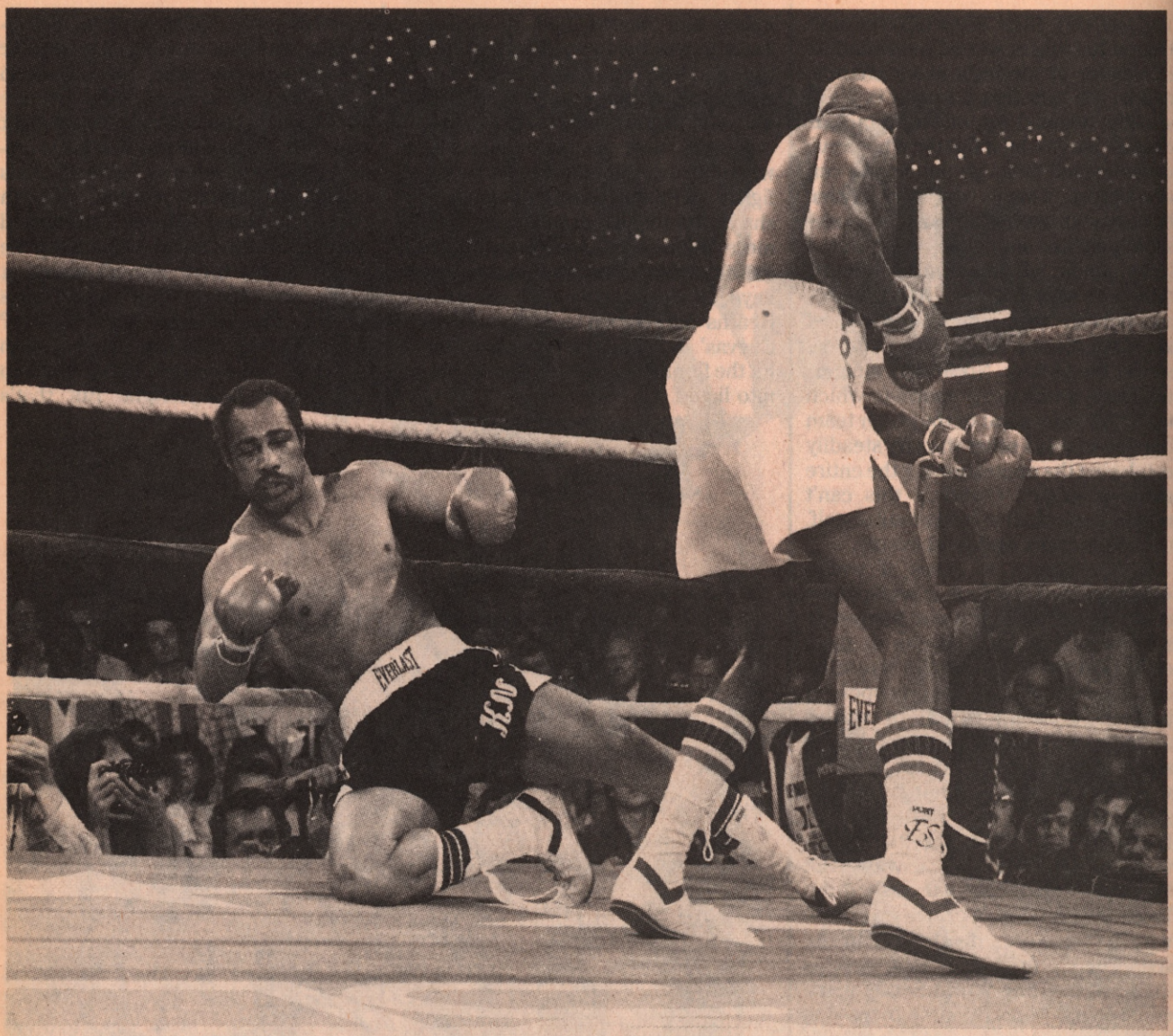


PHOTO BY DWIGHT JOHNSON/DKP

Earnie Shavers, one of the heavyweight division's hardest one-shot punchers of all time, does his thing against Ken Norton, who went bye-bye in the opening round of their 1979 encounter.

home runs in a season, and usually fewer. The same thing happens in boxing.

Nino Benvenuti was generally regarded as a light hitter, and rightly so. But one of the most memorable incidents in his career came when he stopped Luis Rodriguez in defense of his middleweight title in 1969.

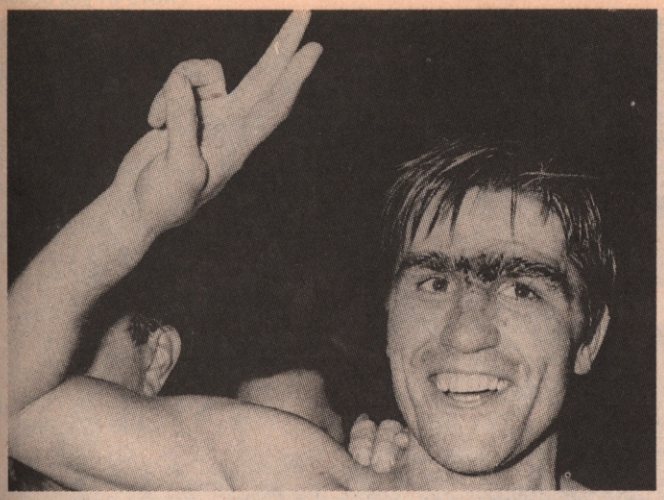
As you may recall, the fight was going along pretty evenly for the first eight or nine rounds, and seemed pretty sure to go the distance. Neither Benvenuti nor Rodriguez could punch much; both of them had pretty good chins, and both were hellacious boxers. This one was definitely a match for the purists.

Then, round about the ninth or 10th round, Rodriguez landed a sharp little shot that split Benvenuti's forehead open, nearly from hairline to eyebrow. Even though the bout was being held in Italy, before Nino's own fans, there was little doubt that he'd be shorn of his title or of his entire blood supply, perhaps both.

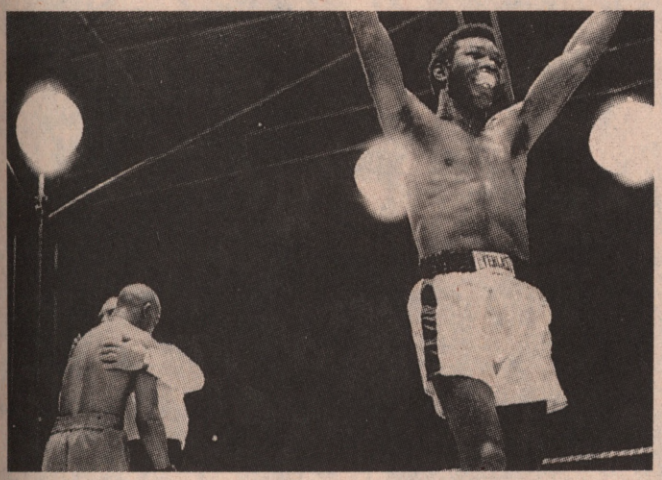
Early in the 11th round, with that cut looking worse and worse and Rodriguez looking stronger and stronger, Nino shot out his right hand in a smooth, almost nonchalant gesture. It didn't look like a terribly hard punch. But Rodriguez just plain flipped over backwards and didn't move. End of fight.

On the replay, of course, TV viewers could see that it was a perfect punch that did in old Luis. It didn't appear that Benvenuti was putting every ounce of strength into the punch, not by a long shot, but what he did put into it was timing. He was reading Rodriguez' movements exactly, and took care, as will a batter in baseball, to hit *through* the target.

Fitzsimmons used to occasionally end bouts in this way, except that he tended to do it with one sensational body shot. He stopped Jim Corbett this way; he applied the very same finish to Peter Maher and to Tom Sharkey. (In the latter bout, however, ref Wyatt Earp ruled that Sharkey had been hit low and disqualified Fitzsimmons. Earp was not exactly the incorruptible, straight-shootin' lawman portrayed in



Middleweight champion Nino Benvenuti had his forehead split wide open by challenger Luis Rodriguez, but saved his crown with a one-punch knockout.



Rodrigo Valdez (right) and Bennie Briscoe were hooked up in a give-and-take brawl when Valdez ended matters with one desperation right hand in the seventh round to win the vacant WBC middleweight title.

all those old TV Westerns).

Fitzsimmons, like Benvenuti, had to time his opponent just right, so as to catch him coming in, throwing the punch in exact synchronicity with his opponent's rush. Maher was always a wide-open brawler with hardly any defense; thus it was easy for Fitz to put him away in the opening seconds of their second bout, which was held just over the Mexican border to avoid the law. (The spectators you see in the old pictures of this bout are actually sitting on a hillside in Langry, Texas, just a short walk from judge Roy Bean's saloon).

With Corbett, it took a little longer. Corbett was a conservative fighter, and although he was outboxing Fitz pretty handily in their title bout in 1897, he wasn't hurting his man much. Along about the 14th round, it occurred to him that he'd better start thinking about a kayo, since this was, after all, a finish fight. So he started going after old Fitz. Only problem was, just before the bell had rung to start the 14th, Fitz had turned to a friend in his corner and advised him, "Bet all you've got on the next round. I'm going to knock him out." When two fellows have the same bad intentions, disaster is pretty sure to follow. In this case, Corbett made a very uncharacteristic rush and Fitz, having shifted into a southpaw stance, threw a left cross that looks — if you're ever lucky enough to see the film of this one — as though it actually came out on the other side of Corbett's body.

Fitz followed up with a left to the jaw, but this was a light blow, and was superfluous anyway. Corbett was perfectly concious, and not in any real pain. He simply couldn't move until more than 10 seconds had passed.

Corbett would always refer to that blow as a lucky punch, and would claim that Fitz knew it, too, since he would never give Corbett a rematch. And it is true, indeed, that Fitz ducked Corbett — and other deserving contenders — for two years thereafter. But a lucky punch?

Let's talk about that. Lots of experts maintain that Corbett was a far better fighter than Fitz, that the Cornishman was almost an accidental champ. No doubt, they'll be saying the same thing about Barkley, who is a fine fellow but almost certainly a very temporary tenant of the divided throne he now holds. Lots of folks said it was a fluke, too, when top-ranked Jerry Quarry took gas from one big punch after having flogged and blinded George Chuvalo through the first seven rounds of their 1969 battle. Bennie Briscoe should have been the middleweight champ, some people will say, but he was just unfortunate enough to be hit with a one-in-a-million shot by Rodrigo Valdez. And we all know how big a mark Valdez ended up leaving on middleweight history.

All right, it does seem unfair, especially if you happen to have been rooting for the fellow who was unceremoniously tatered. And especially if it's a bout such as Barkley-Hearns, where one fellow is a possible hall-of-famer while the other is still a fairly unknown quantity. But did Barkley throw that punch? He did. Are you certain he couldn't do it again? No. Did Hearns allow himself to be hit with it? Yup. And it's happened to him before, by the way. And that's what I mean when I say there's no such thing as a lucky punch.

But a punch like that is something that just about any fighter is capable of. Even Primo Carnera landed such a one, they say, against Jack Sharkey. Athletes talk about putting it all together for one night, or for one season, and the fellows who are able to do that become superstars. But putting it all together for one second is something that's within anyone's reach — if they work for it. You can't knock anyone out without knowing why, without learning how, any more than you can hit a home run off Nolan Ryan without ever having swung a bat, any more than you can take a kickoff and run it back down the L.A. Raiders' throats if you've never handled a football before. Even a "lucky punch" takes a lot of hard work.

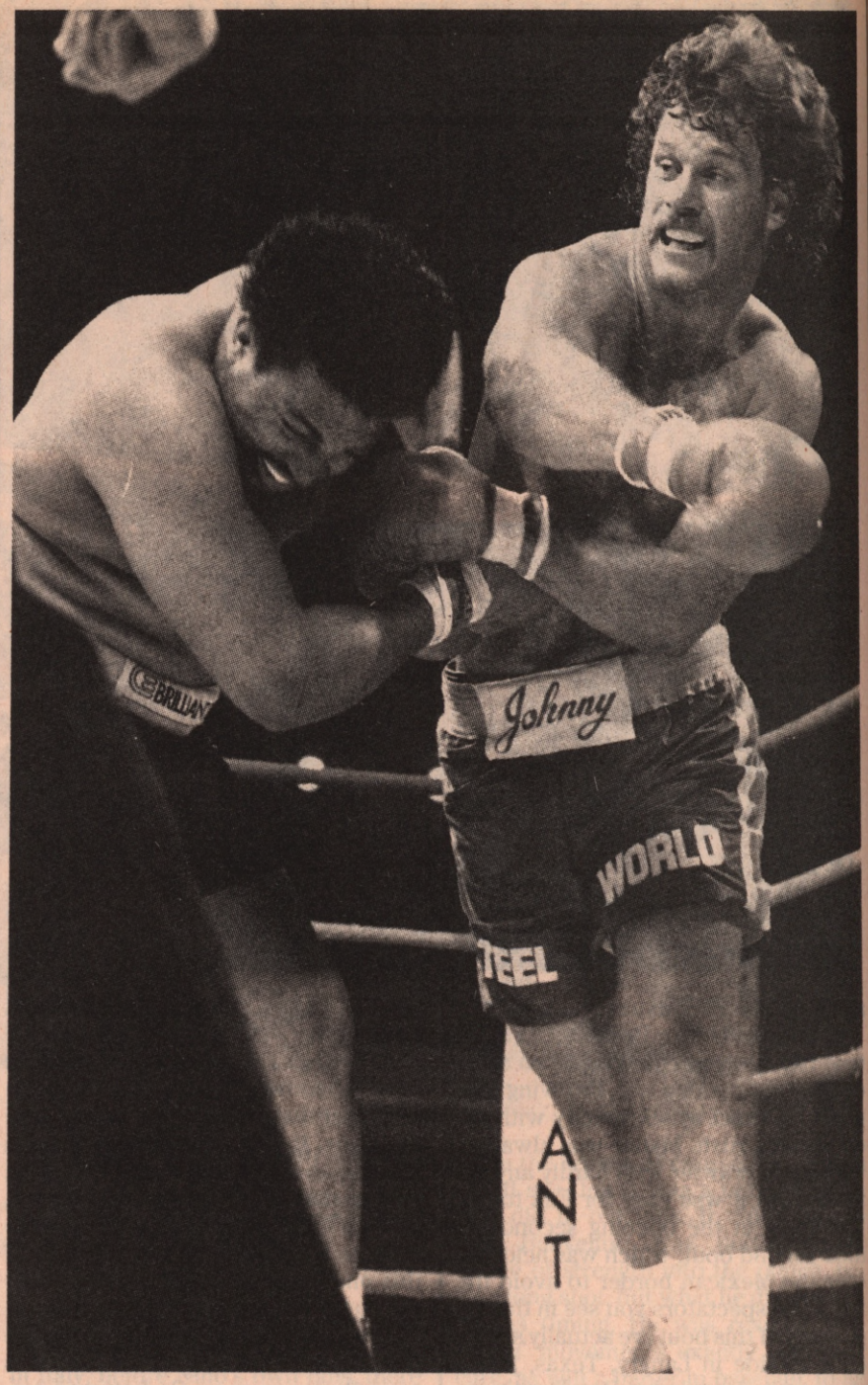
And that's why the fact that it's possible to end a fight that way is one thing that makes boxing attractive. We all love to see the all-time great fighters in action, but every so often it's fun to see a less-than-perfect fighter achieve one second of perfection. For that one second, he's a tater man. □

JOHNNY DU PLOOY... KAYO KING OR PAPER TIGER?

South African Fans Still Skeptical About Latest Heavyweight Hope

by Bert Blewett

PHOTO BY JOE SOUSA



Johnny DuPlooy bounces a right off James Broad's head. It was the first in a series of blows that sent Broad sprawling through the ropes and halfway out of the ring in the fourth round.

JOHNNY DU PLOOY IS A KAYO KING IN search of a kingdom. Having spurned the opportunity to challenge Pierre Coetzer for the South African heavyweight title, Du Plooy has set his sights much higher.

"The object of the exercise is to build up Du Plooy as a credible world title challenger," said Rodney Berman, matchmaker for Square Ring Golden Gloves, and one of the boxer's backers.

"And if that means he has to bowl over a bunch of bozos, so be it. The Americans appreciate what we're doing. They understand the game plan. After all, they invented it."

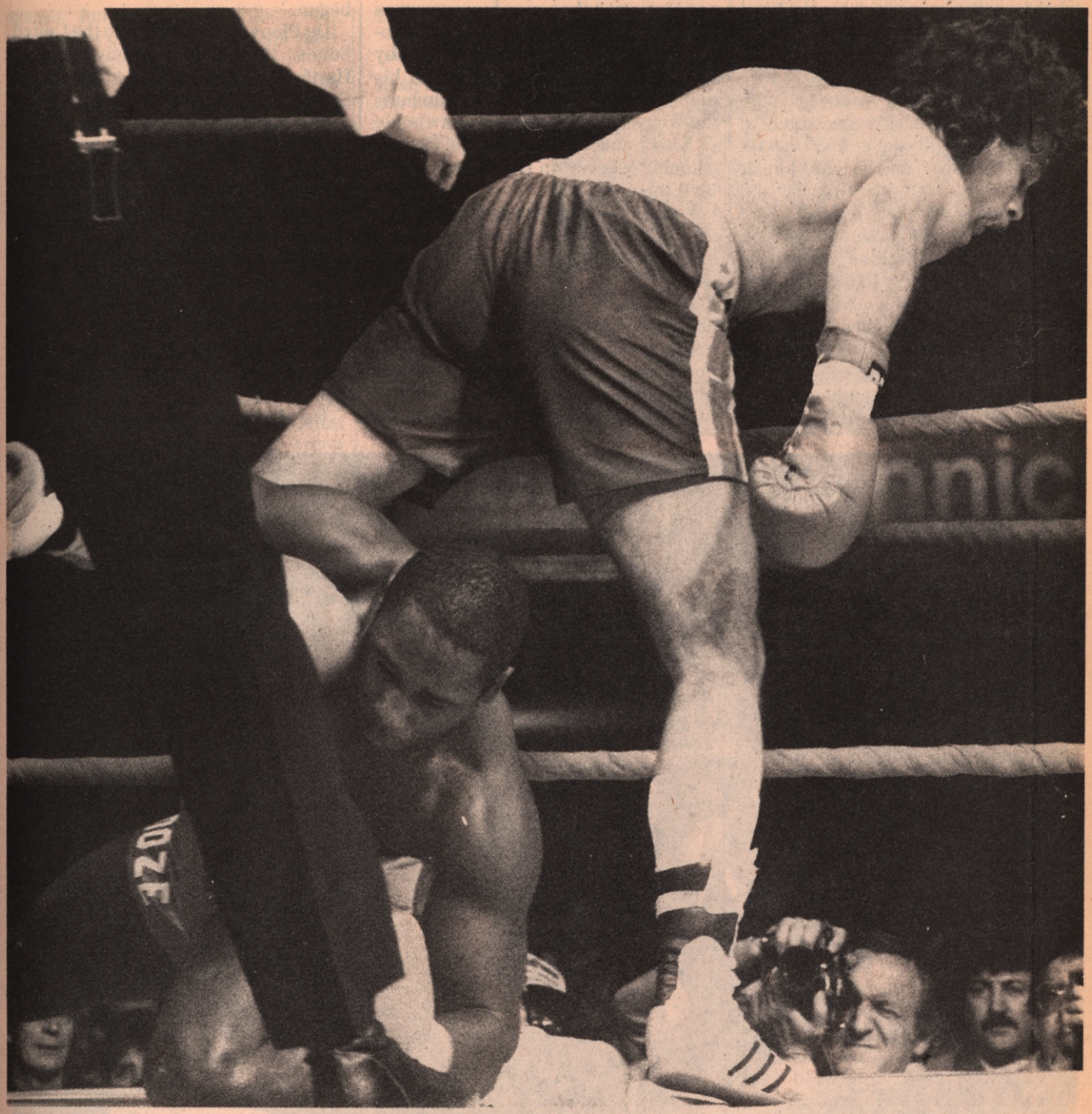
Perhaps South Africans are terribly naive, for many have questioned the validity of Du Plooy's fights. And despite his recent knockout victory over Mike Weaver, skeptics still dismiss him as little more than a paper tiger.

This enraged Don Manuel, manager of Weaver, who considered the whispers a reflection against the good name of his fighter.

"Why don't the knockers come out of the woodwork?" Manuel demanded after the rematch at Sun City. "Mike is sick and tired of all the innuendoes. He would never do anything dishonest. He's not that kind of guy. And besides, have you ever seen anyone fall flat on his face in a fixed fight?"

Trouble is, so many of Du Plooy's fights have ended in controversy that many fans are still holding their noses to avoid the stink. Young Joe Louis, K.P. Porter, David Bey, Tyrone Booze, Rickey Parkey and James Broad all failed to box to their known ability... and that is what the problem is all about.

PHOTO BY ROBBIE SCHNEIDER



Tyrone Booze collapses to the canvas in the second round of his fight with DuPlooy. Booze's dismal effort was typical of most of the Americans imported to South Africa to test DuPlooy.

Du Plooy has unwittingly been caught in the eye of the storm, and even the manner of his defeat in his first fight with Weaver caused eyebrows to be raised. Johnny retired in his corner at the start of the seventh round, ostensibly because of a damaged left hand.

Later it was proved the hand was merely badly bruised, which gave the knockers yet another chance to question Du Plooy's commitment to the game. Even the Weaver camp got into the act when they returned for the rematch.

"I was surprised when Du Plooy retired in his corner," Manuel admitted. "But I guess I come from the old school that believes a man should go down fighting."

Du Plooy, who prefers to let his fists do the talking, went wood-chopping in preparation for the rematch and came to the Sun City ring with muscles bulging on his back.

Weaver virtually grew old before our eyes as Du Plooy shrugged off a cut on his right eye sustained in the first round to poleaxe the former WBA tit-

leholder with a savage right to the head in the second.

Weaver's legs have long gone and his chin was suspect even before he won his title. But somehow he always managed to look the part, thanks largely to his magnificent physique. At 35, his reflexes have slowed and he takes longer to recover from a punch than he did 10 years ago — and there lies the rub.

Du Plooy came out for the second round determined to take control. He almost caused Weaver to jacknife with a vicious right to the body and as the big American lowered his hands, Du Plooy cracked him with a right to the side of the head.

Weaver went down in a heap, stumbled to his feet at the count of eight and then used the ropes for support as he tried to back away from his opponent. Unlike their first fight, Du Plooy did not lose his cool. He picked his punches carefully and after again hurting Weaver in the body, fired a couple of hard rights to the head, the second catching Weaver on the neck, just behind the ear.

Weaver pitched face-first to the canvas and hardly moved a muscle as referee Stan Christodoulou counted him out.

Du Plooy's backers were ecstatic and immediately began talking about a fight for Du Plooy with Tim Witherspoon in Atlantic City. Whether the fight comes off will depend on a number of factors, but negotiations have already begun.

Du Plooy is no stranger to the United States. He made a fleeting trip to Hartford, Connecticut, to knock out Steve Zouski in four rounds in 1986.

The South African, who will turn 24 in September, now boasts a pro record of 18-1. Essentially a counter-puncher, Du Plooy has been severely criticized for his lack of enthusiasm for training, though trainer Willie Lock claims he has little to complain about.

"It doesn't take much to get him into fighting trim and he has complete confidence in himself," said Lock. "Johnny will take on anyone we suggest. The man is fearless and his heart is in the right place."

Du Plooy proved that in his fight

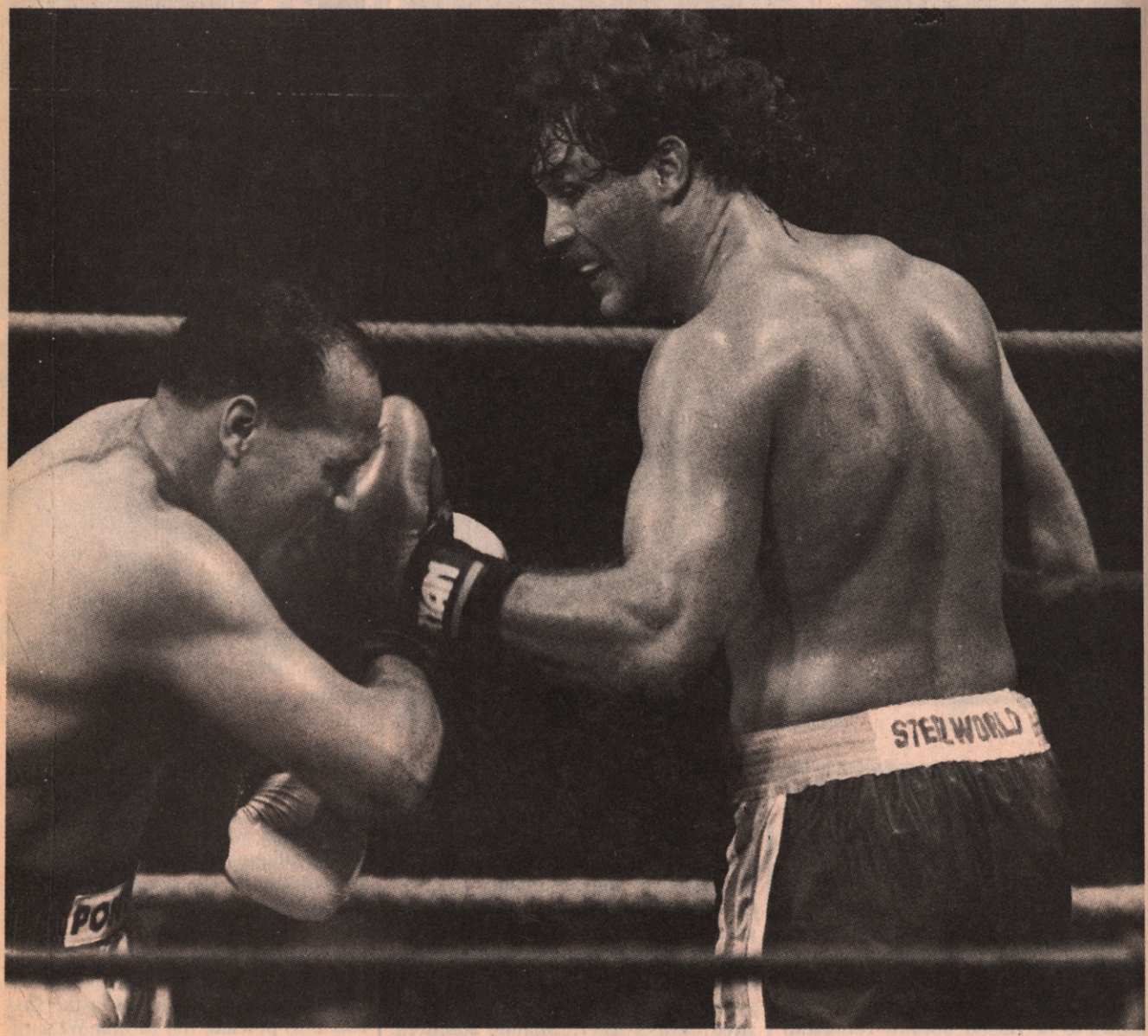


PHOTO BY JAN HAMMAN

American David Bey absorbs a left hook from DuPlooy. Bey, who once challenged Larry Holmes for the heavyweight title, was stopped in the ninth round.

against James "Quick" Tillis, even though the cynics questioned the validity of the fight.

Beau Williford, manager of Tillis, reacted angrily to criticism of his fighter. "My guy is winning the fight; he knows he's winning the fight, so why would he throw it away?" he asked the morning after.

"It seems to me Du Plooy is in a no-win situation in South Africa," said Cedric Kushner, the American promoter, who was at ringside. "Whatever he does isn't good enough for some people."

What Du Plooy did was come from behind to bludgeon Tillis into a 10th-round knockout defeat. Tillis was out on his feet when referee Christodoulou jumped in and stopped the fight, which wasn't surprising when you consider that Du Plooy had hit Tillis with five successive rights to the head.

Trouble is, Du Plooy often wins the battle but loses the war. It happened on the night Du Plooy stopped Bey in nine rounds in Johannesburg. Johnny's physical condition was deplorable for a 10-round fight, his tactics unimaginative and his conversation in the corner between rounds an indictment of his preparation.

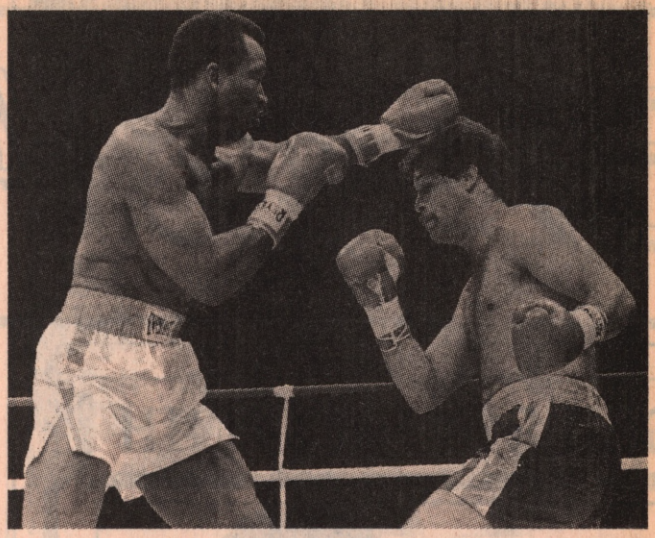
Du Plooy must have got the shock of his life when his big bombs failed to finish off Bey in the second round. Suddenly he was faced with the prospect of having to fight another eight rounds against an opponent who not only knew how to survive but was capable of causing an upset.

The mere thought must have scared the hell out of Du Plooy as television viewers, who were privy to the corner conversations, were shocked to learn. Those of us at ringside picked up the vibes when Du Plooy's punchrate dropped alarmingly and Bey began to pile up points in the middle rounds.

Much of the sting had already gone out of Du Plooy's punches by the halfway stage of the fight, thanks largely to Bey's ability to move inside Du Plooy's right, but also due to Johnny's poor physical condition. Du Plooy kept complaining that his legs had "gone" and he can count himself lucky that Bey lacked the mobility to do much about it.

The American was so slow he made the Joe Louis shuffle look like a quickstep. But that doesn't explain why he suddenly gave up the ghost in the ninth round.

PHOTO BY ALAN SACKS



DuPlooy slips a left jab from former WBA heavyweight champ Mike Weaver. The South African bomber iced Weaver in Round Two, avenging a previous defeat.

Yes, I know Bey was vulnerable to blows high on the side of the head — something even the Du Plooy camp had picked up beforehand — but Bey could and should have got up after Du Plooy dropped him with a couple of rights.

Berman believed Bey's sheer professionalism persuaded him to stay down. "He knew he could win only by knocking out Du Plooy and he knew he could get badly hurt, and I suspect he decided to save himself for another payday," he said.

"It seems to me Du Plooy is in a no-win situation in South Africa," said Cedric Kushner, the American promoter, who was at ringside. "Whatever he does isn't good enough for some people."

The crowd must have sensed it, too, because the fans jeered both boxers from the ring. Perhaps it was unfair to Du Plooy to have the crowd turn against him, but as far as the spectators were concerned he was as much a party to the shambles as was Bey.

It seems that booing the big Americans from the ring has become a habit for South Africans when Du Plooy fights. They did it at Sun City when Porter quit in the sixth round and they did it in Johannesburg when Booze was counted out on his feet in the second.

But they saved most of their animosity for Broad, the blubberweight who looked more like a beached whale than a boxer when he came to the ring at the Ellis Park indoor arena.

And yet it seems a shame that the fans allowed Broad's bulk to overshadow what was a fine performance by the South African kayo king. Not only did Du Plooy execute the knockout in the fourth round with clinical proficiency, he came to the ring in his best shape in months and then surprised everyone by using brain instead of brawn to defeat the American.

There were none of those wild rushes from Du Plooy that so easily could have ended in a clinch. The local lad had made up his mind not to allow the mammoth American to lie all over him at close quarters and wisely boxed Broad from a distance.

Du Plooy's jab zeroed in with unerring accuracy and after a couple of rounds Johnny was even prepared to take one punch in order to land two. Mind you, Broad's punchrate was laughably low. He hardly used his right hand and I can't recall him directing a single blow to the body.

Berman caused something of a stir after the fight when he admitted he doesn't match Du Plooy to lose. "I'm not looking for winners," he said. "I want Johnny to fight men I think he can beat."

Berman's frankness may have shocked the naive, but it's common practice throughout the world to protect the local drawcard.

Now Du Plooy has taken his career a stage further by beating Weaver in their return match. As for Broad, if we never see him again it will be too soon. □

Ring Side Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

Who else but heavyweight champion Mike Tyson could be THE RING'S Fighter of the Month? Nobody, that's who. Tyson earned the magazine's monthly award by blasting Michael Spinks into oblivion in 91 seconds of the opening round.

Mike Tyson is *The Ring's* Fighter of the Month on the strength of his crushing first-round knockout over Michael Spinks for the heavyweight championship of the world. In 91 brutal seconds, Tyson erased any remaining doubt that he is the best heavyweight on the planet. Way to go, champ!

In most months, **Iran Barkley's** upset TKO over Thomas Hearns would have been more than enough to garner top honors. However, because of the great significance of Tyson's victory over Spinks, "The Blade" will have to settle for the first runner-up spot.

This month's honorable mentions go to both winner, **Roger Mayweather,** and loser, **Harold Brazier,** for the tremendous effort they gave during their stirring battle for Mayweather's WBC super lightweight title. Mayweather retained the belt in a see-saw punchout, but both men covered themselves in glory. □

WILLIAMS - CARAMANOLIS

IBF Light Heavyweight Title

ANNECY,FRANCE —"PRINCE" Charles Williams, making the first defense of his IBF light heavyweight title, stopped an extremely courageous French challenger, Richard Caramanolis, in the 11th round in this resort town near the Swiss border.

The 26-year-old Williams, of Mansfield, Ohio, floored the French champion late in the first round and appeared on the verge of a quick victory. But just as suddenly, Caramanolis got back into the fight in the next two rounds, nailing Williams with straight rights that had the partisan French crowd of 5,000 in this soccer stadium yelling "Richard" every time the challenger attempted a punch.

The fight see-sawed from there, Williams scoring with harder shots that ripped open a long cut along the left side of the challenger's nose early. As the fight wore on, the titleholder's steady jab turned the face of Caramanolis into a grotesque mask of blood. But the 30-year-old French champion from Marseilles continued to fight the fight of his life, reaching Williams with straight rights. To the titleholder's credit, he was able to counter those rights with sharp rights of his own.

The challenger enjoyed his last brief success early in Round Nine when the left eye of Williams began to swell. But Caramanolis faded quickly as Williams got his second wind and began to back up Caramanolis with stiff jabs and body shots.

It was strictly one-way traffic in Round 10 as Williams put his punches together, and his short left hooks to the body had Caramanolis holding on.

Caramanolis went down twice in Round 11, more from an accumulation of punches than any single shot. After the second knockdown, referee Randy Neumann of the United States stopped the fight when the challenger's American trainer, Chuck Talhimi, waved the white towel in surrender.

All three judges had Williams ahead after 10, England's Roland Dakin scoring 96-93, France's Ed Horn calling it 96-94 and Harry Papacharamblous of the United States judging 98-91. *The Ring* had Williams in front, 96-94.

The victory, Williams' 12th straight since a November 8, 1984 points loss to Marvin Johnson in Indianapolis, raised his record to 24-4-2 with 16 KOs. Caramanolis fell to 34-3-2 with 24 KOs.

Williams weighed in light at 171.8 pounds "because we didn't have access to a certified scale the last three days and I had to guess what I was weighing. So I had to watch what I ate so as not

to come in heavy. I guess we overdid it."

Gilbert Dele knocked out Martin Camara in eight rounds of a middleweight bout.

Bantamweight Alain Limarola won an eight-round decision over Antione Montero.

Felix DiCiocco won a six-round decision over Ictor Ansoula in a middleweight match.

Middleweight Robert Boudouani decisioned Herve Duchesne over four.
(6-10-88)

KALAMBAY - SIMS
WBA Middleweight Title

RAVENNA, ITALY — SUMBU Kalambay defended his WBA middleweight title by outboxing Robbie Sims over 12 rounds. Making his second defense, the 32-year-old Kalambay, born in Zaire but now an Italian citizen, won all cards handily: Denmark's Ove Owenson and Panama's Medardo Drake, scoring 117-113, while Panama's Nicasio Villalobos called it, 119-113.

Sims, who weighed 159¼ to Kalambay's 158¾, started fast and stunned Kalambay with a right hand in the second round. But Kalambay, who boosted his mark to 44-3-2 while Sims fell to 29-5-2, shook it off and dominated from that point.

"I felt that right, but I was able to recover quickly," said Kalambay. "Sims was the most difficult opponent that I have faced so far."

That was high praise for Sims, considering Kalambay has beaten Herol Graham, Iran Barkley and Mike McCallum in recent starts.

Kalambay began using combinations to good advantage in Round Three and his quickness and jab proved too much for Sims as the fight wore on. Sims began tiring in the latter sessions, loading up for one punch. But Kalambay was not an easy target, and the defending titlist scored well with counters to increase his margin of victory.

On the undercard, Italian lightweight Luca De Lorenzi appeared to receive a gift when Canada's Mark Adams was disqualified in the ninth round for pushing.
(6-12-88)

YUH - de JESUS
WBA Junior Flyweight Title

TAEJON, KOREA — MYUNG-Woo Yuh, the WBA junior flyweight titleholder, 108, was awarded a split decision over Jose de Jesus, a hard-punching Puerto Rican, 106½, in 12 give-and-take rounds to retain his throne for the eighth time.

Some 5,000 spectators in Chungmu Gymnasium were treated to a grudge match as Yuh, in his first defense, had decisioned de Jesus, who was much less experienced at the time, by mixing it up at close range March 9, 1986, and de Jesus came to Korea to avenge the sole setback of his career. A dangerous puncher, de Jesus had iced 16 hombres in 21 victories in Latin America and had put together a string of wins following the loss to Yuh.

Yuh, at 24, the same age as de Jesus, started with a peekaboo style, while de Jesus appeared nervous. In the closing seconds of Round Two, Yuh bored in and landed a smashing, one-two combination that put de Jesus on the seat of his pants. Jose pulled himself up promptly and was allowed to fight on without a count. It was an obvious knockdown ignored by the officials and one judge scored the round 10-9 de Jesus! The others scored 10-8 and 10-9 for Yuh.

The third and fourth sessions were dominated by de Jesus, who sent a volley of punches to the face. Though blocking most blows, Yuh was overpowered by the free-swinging Puerto Rican and his right eye puffed.

The shorter Korean, unbeaten in 26 bouts, fought back with sharp punches to the face to take the next two rounds. But during an exchange of hot punches in the seventh, Yuh suddenly turned his back on de Jesus and complained to Canadian referee Hubert Early of being thumbed. The challenger was warned, but was in command the next three rounds as he concentrated on aiming at Yuh's injured eye, while the titleholder covered up instead of retaliating.

Aware of the tide turning, Thomas Kim, manager of Yuh, loudly encouraged his man to get inside, and he did. Yuh dominated the last three rounds with fast combinations and de Jesus failed to throw nearly as many punches as he had in earlier rounds. In Round 11, de Jesus was almost toppled by Yuh's light, but well-timed one-twos. The final session was fought fiercely as both corners realized it could mean victory. Yuh appeared to take the round by a slight margin as he scored more blows in close.

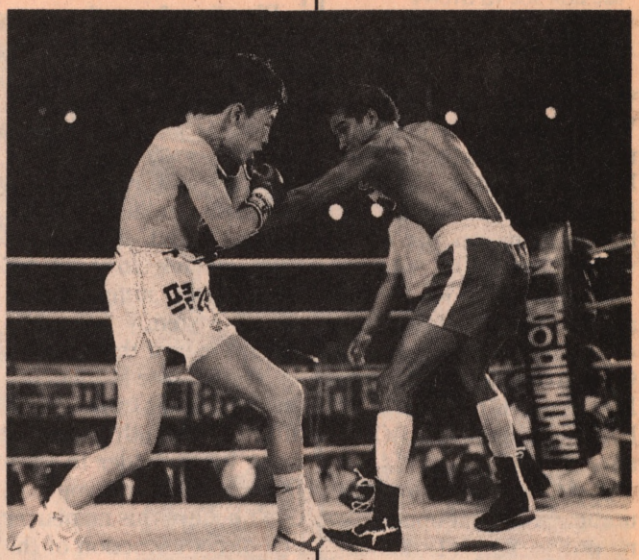


PHOTO COURTESY OF JAPAN BOXING MAGAZINE

Myung-Woo Yuh (left) had the toughest fight of his career when he tangled with Puerto Rican Jose deJesus in a grudge rematch. Yuh managed to retain his WBA junior flyweight title via a split decision after a give-and-take brawl.

Williams McConky scored 115-114 and Bernard Friedkin had it 115-112, both for Yuh. Joey Curtis scored 115-113 de Jesus. All judges were from the United States.

Yuh improved to 27-0 with eight knockouts, while de Jesus fell to 22-2-1 with 16 KOs.

Pepe Cordero, manager of de Jesus, angrily cried, "No han robado! (we were robbed)." *The Ring* saw it 114-114.

Dal-Ho Ahn, formerly gold medalist in the Asian Games, 164, was dominating the fight but suddenly became exhausted and was knocked out by mediocre trialhorse Chong-Hwa Park, 164, at 2:54 of the sixth of a scheduled 10. Ahn, former Olympian, was knocked out by Shawn O'Sullivan in the first round in Los Angeles in 1984. Korean experts had pointed out his lantern jaw prior to his entering the paid ranks. Park is 5-3-1 with three KOs, while Ahn is 1-1.

Kap-Chul Shin, former amateur representative in many tournaments abroad, 105¼, was bleeding profusely and was awarded a technical decision over Joo-Sup Shin, a Novice King Tourney winner, 105½, midway in the third of a scheduled eight. Shin deserves a rematch as he appeared more talented.

Promoter: Thomas (Hyun-Chi) Kim's Dong-A Promotions.

TV: MBC (nationwide in Korea).
(6-12-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

LOMELI - DUPLESSIS

VILLA PARK, ILLINOIS – With "Super D" having been rendered merely mortal, Melrose Park's "Lethal" Louie Lomeli is looking for bigger game on his lightweight division hit list.

Lomeli, 137, pounded out a close, 10-round unanimous decision victory at The Odeum over John "Super D" Duplessis, 136½, New Orleans, in front of an ABC-TV audience.

A decided underdog, the unranked Lomeli upped his record to 22-0 (18 knockouts) while handing Duplessis his first defeat after 27 victories.

"It was my toughest fight," said the Illinois state lightweight champion. "He's a helluva boxer, but he never hurt me. I just couldn't knock him out."

Opening the bout aggressively, Lomeli stunned Duplessis with a right hand high on the head. After the initial connection, Lomeli seemed to be loading up for the right and Duplessis skipped away with rounds two through four by popping Lomeli with the jab and refusing to allow himself to be cornered.

In the fifth round things started to heat up as Duplessis began to slow down. For the second time in the bout, Lomeli wrestled Duplessis to the canvas. The indiscretion seemed to fire up "Super D" who engaged Lomeli in some spirited exchanges in both the fifth and sixth rounds.

"He was hitting me with one or two punches, but I was making the fight and hitting him with the harder shots," Lomeli said.

The aggressor throughout the bout, Lomeli was simply stronger than Duplessis. "Super D" must stand for excellent defensive skills, because his offensive arsenal seemed limited.

Bleeding from the nose and from a cut under the right eye (from a head butt), Lomeli stormed Duplessis for the last five rounds, landing excellent body punches and right hands. Duplessis rallied in the eighth round, but didn't have enough to hold off Lomeli, who stung Duplessis consistently over the second half of the fight.

Referee Nate Morgan deducted a point from Lomeli after the seventh round for using his shoulder to keep Duplessis on the ropes. I don't believe this maneuver is a direct infraction of the rules, (it's not real Mr. Rogers neighborly, but the sport isn't rhythmic gymnastics) but Lomeli's roughousing and the vocal corner of Duplessis seemed to contribute to the subtraction.

When Duplessis was shoved through the ropes in the eighth round, Les Bonano and Lou Duva were on the ring apron calling for Lomeli's disqualification. (A replay clearly showed that Duplessis was trying to spin Lomeli to the ground and Lomeli's superior strength prevailed.)

"Lomeli is a tough guy," Bonano said after the bout. "I give him a lot of credit. He did what he had to do, but he should have been disqualified or had more points taken away. My guy couldn't beat Lomeli and the ref."

Lomeli said, "He kept pushing my head down and he tried to swing me down, so I threw him down."

Judge Mike Glienna observed the action at 46-45, Bill Lerch carded 46-44 and Jerry Jakubco had Lomeli a 47-46 winner. *The Ring* agreed with Lerch.

On the undercard, Meldrick Taylor, 141½, Philadelphia, pitched a 10-round shutout of Martin Quiroz, 142½, San Jose, CA. Glienna and Lerch each saw the fight 50-40, while Jakubco called three rounds even, giving Taylor a 50-43 verdict.

Quiroz wasn't quick enough to contend with Taylor (19-0-1) and only cracked the Olympic champion's tight defense in the final round when he caught Taylor with a right hand. Quiroz is a tough test for any 140-pounder, but I'm still wondering if Taylor's going to be able to hurt "Buddy" when the pair finally meets for McGirt's IBF crown.

Frankie Warren's return to ring wars was brief as he dispatched Efrain Nieves, 142, Milwaukee, at 2:26 of the opening round. Warren, 141½, Corpus Christi, had no problems with Nieves, who has slipped badly in recent years. Warren is 25-1.

Veteran Jake Torrence, 164, Gary, avenged an earlier defeat when he dealt middleweight prospect David Davis his second loss in his last three fights. Davis, 160, Chicago, had copped a close six-round nod from Torrence last July, but this time it was late sub Torrence triumphing in a close fight. Davis drops to 16-2.

Activity agrees with J.C. Camell Jr. Camell, 147, Chicago, won his third fight in less than a month when he TKO'd Torrance Martin, 148, Chicago, at 2:11 of the sixth and final round. Camell floored Martin four times in the bout, but Martin never quit. Just before the fight was stopped by referee Tim Adams, Martin had knocked Camell's mouthpiece out. J.C. raised his mark to 7-4.

Chicago's Curtis Strong, 133, went to 6-1-1 with a lopsided, six-round unanimous decision victory over Randy Reedy, 132, Terre Haute, IN.

Duplessis' stablemate Dave Collette, 154, Metairie, LA, made it two for two when he stopped Donald Tucker, 151½, Milwaukee, at 2:54 of Round One in a scheduled four.

Promoter: Cedric Kushner.
Matchmaker: Jack Cowen.
Attendance: 450.
(6-12-88)

JEFF CARLSON

ROCCHIGIANI - WALKER

IBF Super Middleweight Title

BERLIN – THE DEUTCHland-halle was host to an IBF super middleweight title bout between southpaw champion Graciano Rocchigiani and Nicky Walker of Carson City, Nevada.

And the crowd of nearly 5,000 saw Germany's latest idol and pinup retain his title on points after 15 rounds.

The 26-year-old American was underrated by most, but provided the German with a harder fight than did his countryman Vincent Boulware, from whom Rocchigiani won the vacant crown with an eighth-round stoppage in March. The German probably won 11 of the rounds with four for Walker, but what was expected to be a routine chore became a night of hard work for Rocchigiani.

Going into Round 11 was unfamiliar territory for both. This appeared to affect the 24-year-old German more so than Walker. Not being able to pace this marathon distance was rather surprising for Rocchigiani, who had covered 660 K's in roadwork and sparred 320 rounds, 70 more than in preparation for his bout with Boulware. In Round 12, both bled from cut eyebrows, Rocchigiani from the right, Walker from the left, but the corners did good repair work, reducing the handicaps to a minimum.

Both received their largest purse, Rocchigiani getting DM180,000, Walker DM50,000, and both deserved every dime. It was in all a thrilling confrontation of two young boxers full of vigor. Rocchigiani brought impressive credentials having gone 24 times without defeat.

Judges Bill Graham (146-137), of the United States, France's Edmund Horn (148-140) and Germany's Kurt Halbach (147-137) all had Rocchigiani winning. Referee Waldemar Schmidt of Puerto Rico officiated brilliantly.

The reception for Walker was mild compared to the roar from the partisan crowd that shook the building when Rocchigiani made his appearance. However, support for Walker, who lost for the third time in 39 fights, increased as the fight progressed and at the close he received a tremendous ovation from the fans who appreciated his effort.

The curtain raiser was a heavyweight bout which saw 25-year-old local-based Turk Yurder Demircan do a quick destruction job kayoing German Herbert Wegner with a left hook midway through

Round Two. Demircan is undefeated in two paid bouts and won 45 of 48 amateur starts inside the distance.

Staying undefeated with nine straight wins, 22-year-old Nigerian Peter Konyegwachie outscored Berlin-based Turk Aytekin Urkal in a six-round lightweight match.

Ghana middleweight Tony Bawa got a 2-1 vote at the end of his eight-rounder with American Ralph Smiley, who landed low often.

Local-based Turkish welterweight Senturk Ozdemir decisioned British reserve call-in Chubby Martin over six. Martin pleased the crowd with his brilliant boxing, but was a little behind at the bell and raised no objection to the verdict.

Light heavyweight Nelson "Alex" Alves, son of parents from Brazil and awaiting German credentials, beat Briton Dennis Banton in three rounds. After Banton had taken a couple of standing counts the third man broke up the affair. Alves has a seven-bout win streak, while Banton has won five of nine.

The walkout saw France's Denis Truchet beat German heavyweight Karl-Heinz Heistermann, who was taken out of the affair in the fourth round with a cut eye. The German has lost two of seven, the Frenchman one of nine.

Promoter: Wilfried Sauerland.

Matchmakers: Peter Bedewitz & Jean Marcel Nartz.

Physicians: Walter Wagner & Walter Herbrich.

Referees: Uwe Uhlmann, Norbert Grosch & Heinrich Muehmert.

(6-3-88)

JACK TREE

ZARAGOZA-LEE

WBC Super Bantamweight Title

YEOSU, KOREA — MEXICAN lefty Daniel Zaragoza, 121¼, struggled to keep his WBC super bantamweight title as he was awarded a highly controversial draw with Korean Seung-Hoon Lee, also 121¼, in 12 hard-fought and gory rounds at Hongkuk Gymnasium.

It was total war, and the two were exhausted after exchanging blows throughout the contest. Some 5,000 spectators believed the more aggressive Lee had won, and several pamphlets were thrown into the ring as fans expressed their dissent. It could have been a riot, but the people remembered that the Olympic Games were only 3½ months away and tried to remain gentlemanlike as not to spoil the reputation of Korean fans.

Australian judge Cliff Heaver scored for Lee, 114-112, but United States judge Lou Filipo saw it for Zaragoza, 115-113. Italian judge Rolando Barroveccio scored 114-114. *The Ring* favored Lee, 115-113.

The 31-year-old Zaragoza started quickly, displaying fast footwork as he moved to the right throwing sharp rights. The Korean, fighting in a peekaboo style, studied the titleholder's speed and mobility and scored with smashing rights to the belly and face. But Zaragoza continued a steady attack as Lee waited, perhaps too long, to get into gear.

Promoter Ho-Yun Chun was prepared to ask the WBC for a rematch, while Mun-Pil Chung, the Korean Commission's coordinator, angrily reviewed the fight and said, "Why was this fight scored a draw? Look and compare the damage of each boxer. What a decision!"

Zaragoza's manager, Rafael Mendoza, saw it differently, however.

"Though my champ was bleeding and took good shots from Lee, my score was one point ahead for Zaragoza," said Mendoza. "He was outboxing the challenger and took the early rounds."

If Lee, who earned a reported $14,000, had started earlier, there is no doubt he would have earned the victory. Zaragoza earned a reported $90,000.

The semifinal saw Miguel Mercedes, the WBC's third-ranked flyweight, 114, give a lesson in close-range fighting to previously unbeaten Korean Yul-Woo Lee, ranked fourth by the WBC. Mercedes closed the eye of Lee and won a lopsided, 10-round decision with the winner expected to earn a crack at world flyweight champion Sot Chitalada.

Though there were no knockdowns, the shorter Miguel, younger brother of Eleoncio, who held the WBC flyweight title for four months in 1982-83, had Lee on the verge of going down from punishment, and *The Ring* favored him, 99-94.

Mercedes raised his credentials to 22-2-1 with 13 knockouts, while Lee slipped to 14-1 with seven knockouts.

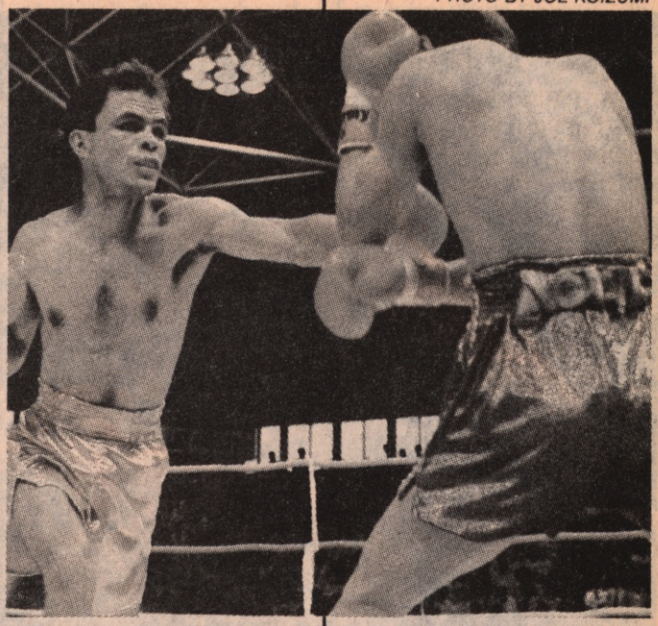
Promoter: Ho-Yun Chun's Kukdong Promotions.

Attendance: 5,000 (est.).

(5-29-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

PHOTO BY JOE KOIZUMI



Mexican Daniel Zaragoza (left) was lucky to hang onto his WBC super bantam belt with a controversial draw with Korean Seung-Hoon Lee.

FOREMAN - HERNANDEZ

ATLANTIC CITY — GORGEous George he ain't, never was even if he's had five wives. Maybe George Foreman should have fine-tuned his act at The Trop's Comedy Stop downstairs into the big (Atlantic City's biggest) theater of the absurd for a full-blown production number the night before Tyson-Spinks.

While a big George (245 lbs.) takes himself seriously, the man from Humble, Texas is flabbergasted none of the media has fallen in line. Poor George.

His opponent in this scheduled 10 was stocky, 225-pound Carlos Hernandez of West New York, NJ, who has a losing record in recent bouts. The perfect foil, he hadn't fought since June of '87. What qualifications! At least Hernandez had been in town as a sparmate for the ill-fated Michael Spinks.

Hernandez, a member in good standing of the quintessential brawlers club, came out fast and actually landed a double left hook which had the former heavyweight champion reeling off balance. Not to worry, the nonchalant, lackadaisical, listless, apathetic, sleeping giant (get the picture?) just took it in stride and let Carlos try as he might to land another telling blow.

If Foreman is indeed taking himself seriously about this comeback, then why doesn't he appear more emotionally involved in the ring? Between rounds he just stands with his back to the ring, props up his left foot on the stool and leans toward his corner, arms resting on his thigh. He seemed so unconcerned, so much so that he was officially behind after three rounds with Hernandez. It was only in

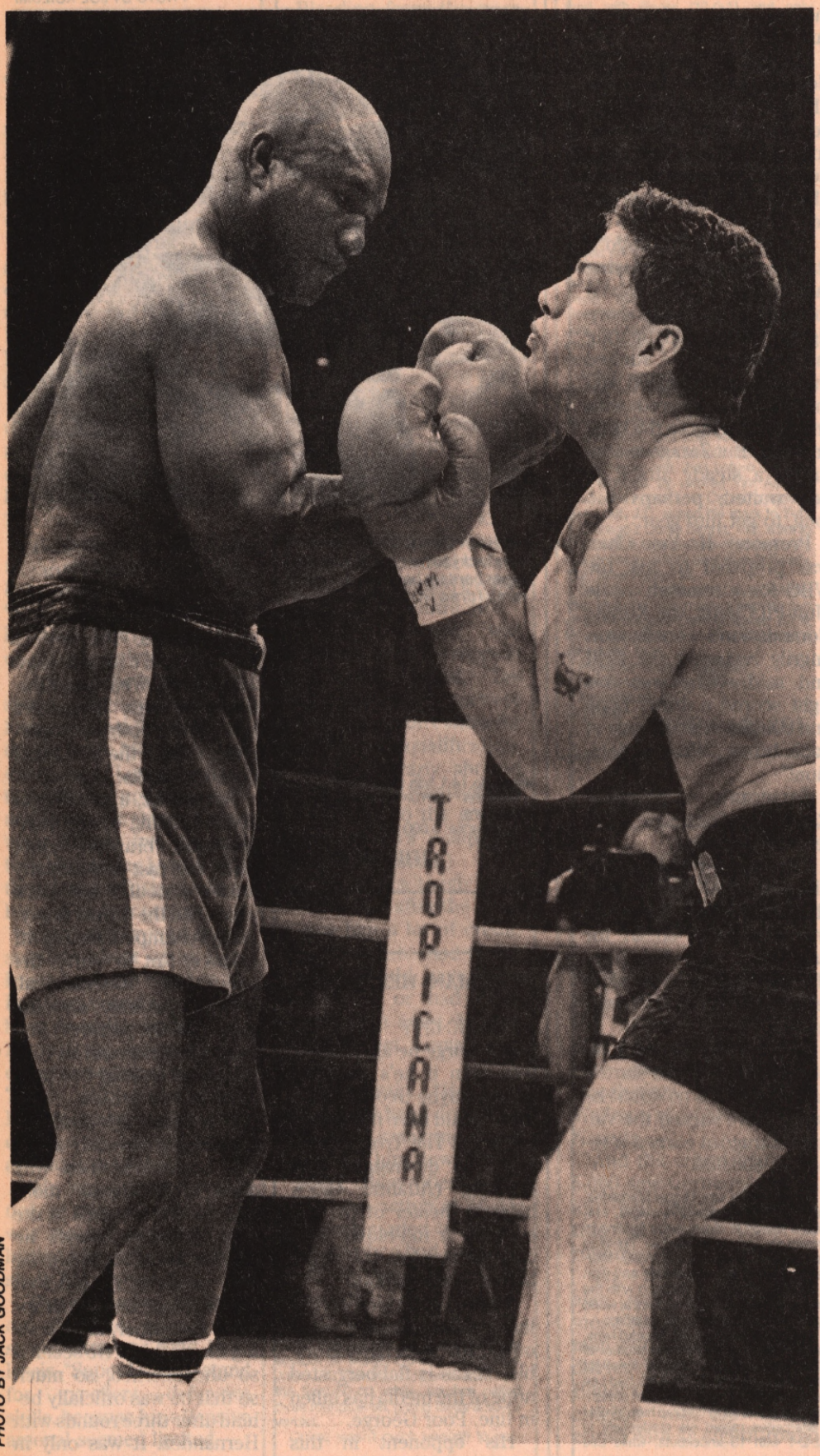


PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

the second round that George got any votes, and that was the round in which the timekeeper rang the bell after only two minutes had elapsed.

Early in the fourth, Foreman changed the tempo a bit. He couldn't help but land on his gutty, but limited foe. No longer able to prolong this "seniors tour" outing, he rapped Hernandez about the ring, then asked for it to be stopped.

When Hernandez lost his mouthpiece, he vocally challenged George to hit him again. Foreman halted his attack and vainly pleaded with referee Paul Venti to have the gumshield replaced. You can't do that in New Jersey, George.

Reluctantly, Foreman went back to work and within seconds nearly the entire Jersey commission was rising up in unison to stop the bout. Carlos had absorbed some head-jarring lefts and rights and looked dazed. Venti did the right thing and humanely stopped it at 1:36 of the fourth.

Afterward, Foreman stuck to his comeback guns, saying, "I'm back. I'm here to stay. Everybody, including Mike Tyson, is watching George Foreman. I'm the only former heavyweight champion of the world who never has been offered another shot at the title. And I don't think that's right. They dug Larry Holmes out of the graveyard. I've been fighting every other month."

Enough already, Mr. Preacher. They'll arrest the first matchmaker who dares put you in with a legit con-

Biff! George Foreman jerks back the head of Carlos Hernandez en route to a fourth-round TKO and his 10th comeback victory in Atlantic City.

tender. Foreman is now 55-2 with 52 KOs, while Hernandez skidded to 18-6-1.

Dewith Frazer, 148, Toronto, and Anthony Andrews, 149, Brooklyn, did little to impress the crowd and boxed to a split-decision draw over eight rounds. Scores: Milo Savage, 77-74 for Frazer, while John Riley had the same score for Andrews. Phil Newman saw it 76-76. *The Ring* agreed with Savage. Frazer did have one clear round; the fifth, in which he staggered his foe with rights. Referee, Venti.

USBA super middleweight champion Lindell Holmes took some keep-busy work and went through the motions, easily decisioning Ralph Ward, 165¾, Toledo, Ohio, by unanimous vote over eight rounds. The taller Ward was able to survive a left hook knockdown in the third, but did little offensively to get back into it. Holmes, 167¾, Detroit raised his record to a listed 36-5 with 34 KOs. Ward suffered his first defeat and is now 13-1 with only two KOs. Scores: Savage and Newman both had it 78-73, while *The Ring* agreed with the 79-72 card of Riley. Referee, Venti.

In a hard-fought but ragged affair, Mike Robinson, 212, Saratoga Springs, NY, and Garing Lane, 265, Washington, DC, settled for a majority four-round draw. Scores: Newman, 39-37 for Robinson. Riley, 38-38 and Savage, 39-39. Referee, Steve Smoger.

Timekeeper: Art Spell.

Promoter: Super Fights Unlimited (Gerry Cooney and Dennis Rappaport).

Matchmaker: Mike Acri.

Television: USA Cable.

Site: The Tropicana Hotel-Casino theatre.

(6-26-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

IOKA - KIATWANCHAI
WBC Strawweight Title

OSAKA — NINETEEN-YEAR-old Hiroki Ioka, 104¾, barely kept his WBC strawweight title by a hotly disputed draw with Thai challenger Napa Kiatwanchai, 104¼, in 12 give-and-take rounds at Kinki University Memorial Gymnasium.

The last round ended at 2:28, with the defending titleholder close to a knockout defeat. Kiatwanchai, a game, 20-year-old lefty, had Ioka quite groggy. With 10 more seconds, the Thai would have floored the champ. Timekeeper Hidenobu Okane may have saved Ioka's championship.

Sombhop Srisonvongse, the challenger's manager, protested the short round, producing his own stopwatch in the ring. Raymond Clarke, the WBC's witness from Britain, later watched a videotape that supported the claim and said he would recommend a prompt rematch.

The short Kiatwanchai was underestimated by Ioka's camp, though also unbeaten at 23-0-1 with four kayoes.

It seemed true as the 5-7 Ioka, four inches taller than Kiatwanchai, floored the Thai with a well-timed, short left hook in the first round. But Kiatwanchai immediately stood and resumed fighting in his peekaboo style. When Ioka took the second session with fast combinations to the face, the crowd expected an early stoppage and an easy defense. However, Kiatwanchai, a titlist of Muay-Thai (national kick-boxing), started showing his strength in the third round, scoring well with sharp one-twos, right uppercuts and straight lefts to the face that left Ioka bleeding from the nose. The Japanese kept backpedaling, appearing bewildered by Kiatwanchai's unexpected aggressiveness. The Thai was also in command in the fourth, landing a couple of southpaw right hooks that shook Ioka. The titleholder, trying to stop the challenger's attack with his vaunted combinations, missed his target repeatedly.

Round Five was taken by Ioka, who utilized his footwork to keep his distance and connected with one-two combos followed by left hooks. In the closing seconds, Kiatwanchai was forced to retreat. The sixth was difficult to score as neither landed enough accurate blows to win the round. Ioka threw more punches, but most missed, while Kiatwanchai stayed on the defensive, only displaying a few punches before the bell.

But Kiatwanchai dominated the next three rounds, his jolting right catching the lanky titleholder so often he was obliged to retreat continually. When the Japanese did attempt to fight back on occasion, Kiatwanchai displayed his elusiveness and good defense. Kiatwanchai slipped in the ninth, but almost toppled Ioka with accurate right hooks and one-twos.

Ioka, encouraged by his trainer Eiji Morioka, an Olympic bronze medalist in 1968, tried to win the 10th, punching sharply and looking a little more effective than the tight-guarded Kiatwanchai. But Kiatwanchai's straight lefts had the blood once again streaming from Ioka's nose in the 11th, and the final frame was the worst for the titleholder.

Ioka threw away his mouthpiece and showed his willingness to fight toe-to-toe with his positive challenger, but referee Bob Logist of Belgium stopped the proceedings and ordered Ioka to put it back in, which took about 16 seconds. When they resumed, Kiatwanchai opened with fireworks, landing a smashing right hook that buckled Ioka's legs. The Thai battered Ioka with good lefts and rights and with one more clean shot Ioka might have sunk to the canvas. The bell, however, came to his rescue.

The Ring saw the fight 115-113 for the more aggressive Thai, but the official nod was a split draw as follows: Harry Gibbs (Britain) 114-113, Kiatwanchai; Chuck Williams (Hawaii) 113-113; Pedro Mendoza (Mexico) 115-113, Ioka, whose record going in was 10-0 with six kayoes.

In the semifinal, Japanese flyweight champion Leopard Tamakuma, 111¼, was annoyed by the Ali-like footwork and kamikaze attacks of fast-moving challenger Hisashi Tokushima, 111¼, but floored the latter thrice to score an automatic KO at 2:45 of the fifth of a scheduled 10.

It was the fourth defense for the skinny, 5-8 lefty, who improved his record to 23-3 with nine knockouts. He is rumored to be in line for a shot at world flyweight champion Sot Chitalada. Tokushima, a stablemate of Ioka, fell to 13-3 with seven KOs after the interesting fight.

Korean Jae-Shik Park, 112½, easily knocked out fragile lefty Masayuki Takahashi, the JBC's No. 3 flyweight, 112½, at 2:48 of the second of a scheduled eight. Park, an imported sparring partner for Ioka, bettered his record to 10-1 with three knockouts. Takahashi is 16-4 with seven kayoes.

Douglas Kinoshita, 125½, displayed his punching power and stopped Mitsunobu Goda, 125, at 2:03 of the second round. Douglas is 18-2-1 with eight KOs. Goda, the JBC's #6 junior feather, is 10-3-1 with nine kayoes.

Kenbun Taiho, 112, decisioned Dash Higashiko, 112, in eight.

Promoter: Hiroaki Tsuda's Green Tsuda Promotions.

TV: Mainichi TV (Japan) and Channel 7 (Thailand).

Attendance: 9,350.

(6-5-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

HILL - HASSAN
WBA Light Heavyweight Title

LAS VEGAS — VIRGIL HILL IS an honest man, the first to admit his most recent exercise at the Hilton was a night he'd like to forget. Better still, he could profit from his experience.

Hill, 24, who has adopted Vegas as home by way of Bismarck, North Dakota, is still the WBA light heavyweight titleholder, but that big, undefeated image for the future is still on hold.

For the moment, Hill probably lost some ground in the 175-pound sweepstakes even though he pitched a near shutout against light-hitting Ramzi Hassan, a 25-year-old from San Diego via the long road from Jordan. Hill's log reads 22-0 with 14 KOs, but ringsiders were at a loss to understand why he couldn't put away a Middle Easterner who had posted only four knockouts en route to a 25-3 record.

In the official scoring, judges Gordon Volkman of

Defending WBA light heavyweight champ Virgil Hill (left) and challenger Ramzi Hassan both miss with rights during their Las Vegas bout which ended with a unanimous decision in Hill's favor.

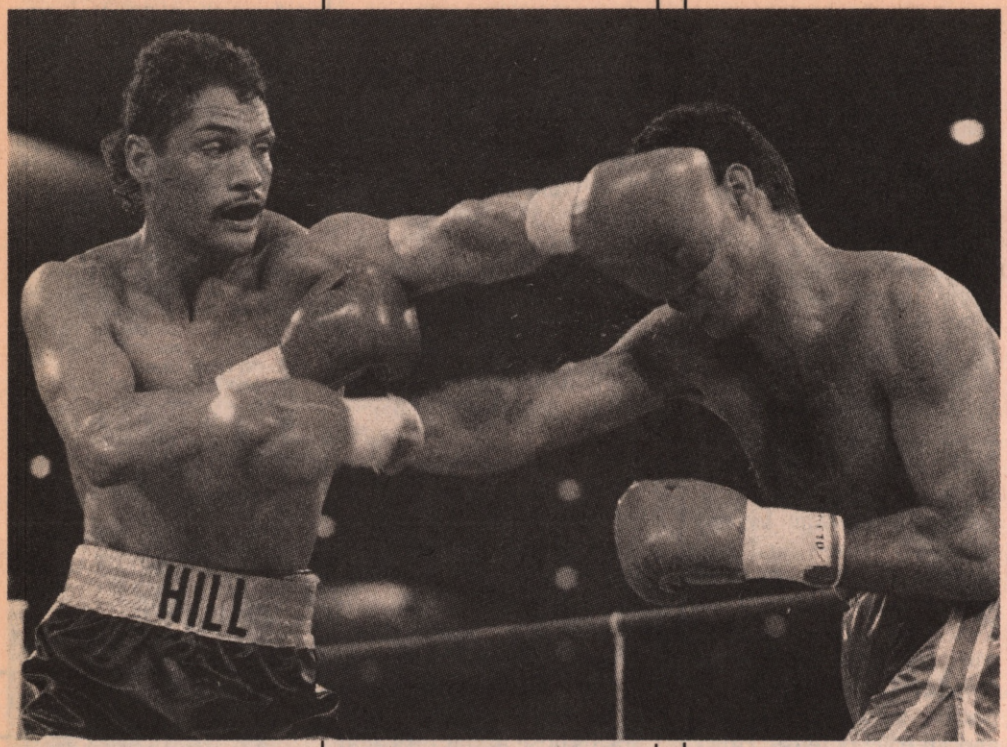


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Chicago and Carol Polis of Pennsylvania saw it 118-109, while Art Lurie of Las Vegas voted 116-112, all for Hill. Referee Mills Lane of Reno took a point away from Hill for a low blow in the 11th, and the titleholder still finished even in the round. The judges agreed only on the ninth for Hassan, but Lurie also awarded him the third and seventh sessions.

"I was really surprised the fight went the distance," said Hill's trainer Freddie Roach. "But it wasn't Hill's best fight because he looked a little nervous, maybe because this was the first time he was fighting in Las Vegas as a pro. I didn't think those blows were low, I just think Hassan didn't like punishment in the body. I think he was trying to slow down the fight to get some rest. The better the opponent, the better Virgil Hill fights."

Making the third defense of the title he won by knocking out Leslie Stewart last September, Hill did score with some solid overhand rights, but Hassan's chin hinted on granite.

"I was ready tonight," said Hill. "I just didn't execute like I wanted to. But hey, a win's a win."

When asked if the accidental low blow delivered by the 1984 Olympic silver medalist was a distraction, Hassan said, "Hill tried to go low, but sometimes your concentration slips. I know he didn't mean it. They weren't intentional. I feel it was a good fight.

"I expected Virgil to throw a lot of right hands," Hassan added. "He threw a few, but there was no time when he really hurt me."

Hill, who weighed 174½, earned $150,000, while Hassan, 175, made $25,000.

On the undercard of Top Rank's promotion, which included Iran Barkley's knockout of Thomas Hearns and Roger Mayweather's win over Harold Brazier, Fabrice Benichou, 120, Paris, made his American debut with a unanimous, eight-round decision over Efren Chavez, 119, Los Angeles. If the former European bantamweight champion hadn't generated the action, there may not have been much. Chavez sporadically threw a left or right, but rarely punched in sequence. Benichou won all eight rounds on one judges' tally and seven of eight on the other two. Benichou, under the wing of Eddie Futch since arriving in Vegas several months ago, improved to 18-4 with 10 KOs, while Chavez skidded to 7-2.

All walkout bouts were reduced from six to four rounds.

Joe Hernandez, 149, Pueblo, Colorado, snapped the eight-fight unbeaten string of Henry Anaya, 148, Albuquerque, New Mexico, by decision.

Mike Moorer, 176, Detroit, won his fifth straight as a pro out of the Kronk gym, stopping Keith McMurray, 175, Chicago, at 2:10 of the second.

Dino Homsey, 193, Phoenix, Arizona, ended the 7-0, four KOs run of Dick "Raging Bull" Ryan, 212, Omaha, with a TKO at 2:31 of the third.

Roosevelt Williams, 160, New York, moved to 4-0 with one KO with a unanimous decision over Tony Huggins, 158, Los Angeles.
(6-6-88)

JACK WELSH

MAYWEATHER - BRAZIER
WBC Super Lightweight Title

LAS VEGAS — FORTY HOURS before Roger Mayweather risked his WBC super lightweight title against clever Harold Brazier, the controversial titleholder declared, "People who say I have a glass jaw should remember the other guy has to reach the glass first."

Brazier reached "the glass" in the late rounds on a summer night at the Hilton, but there was no shattering. And Mayweather, five years the challenger's junior at 27, countered pretty good, too, retaining his 140-pound title on a questionable, 12-round split decision.

Less than 10 hours later, Mayweather encountered some honest-to-goodness glass when he wrecked his car in a head-on crash with another vehicle en route to a press conference at the Hilton. Mayweather was taken to nearby Humana Hospital Sunrise where he was treated for minor facial and knee lacerations and released. The driver of the second car, who was not identified, was also treated for minor cuts and released. Driving a BMW, Mayweather was issued five citations, including crossing the yellow line to cause the accident, driving without a valid driver's license and driving with no insurance, according to Sgt. Steve Tuggle, who investigated.

In a matchup that had the house screaming through the final six rounds, there were no knockdowns. The ninth round drew the response of the night, especially when it appeared Brazier was ready to take out the visibly tiring Mayweather. Brazier, losing for just the second time in five years, was equally spent after catching Mayweather's jabs and overhand rights in the early going, and his inability to follow up after wobbling Mayweather may have cost the South Bend, Indiana native a crown.

In the official balloting, Spyder Bynum of Dallas and Carol Castellano of New York had it for Mayweather, 114-113 and 116-111, respectively, while Mexico's Abraham Chavar-

ria saw it 116-115, Brazier.

Mayweather, 140, improved his record to 32-5 with 22 KOs while earning $85,000. Brazier, 140, is 55-8-1 with 40 KOs, but his top purse ever at $30,000 obviously isn't enough to soothe his giant disappointment.

Mayweather admitted the fight was "just as tough" as he anticipated, saying, "Brazier hurt me a few times. Rounds eight and nine were particularly bad, but I knew I was in good condition to take a punch. I think I proved that."

Mayweather added, "I thought I hurt Brazier badly in the 10th and 12th rounds. He's very tough, so I knew it would be a close decision."

Brazier trailed by four points on two cards coming into the ninth, but appeared ready to turn it all around when he nailed Mayweather with a left-right-left, the last being an uppercut. Brazier pinned the titleholder in a neutral corner, but just before the bell Mayweather came back with a left-right-left that made Brazier hold.

Two judges scored 10-8 for Brazier even without a knockdown.

The crowd roared in the 12th as the two spent fighters desperately tried for a knockout. First it was Brazier wobbling Mayweather with overhand rights. Then Mayweather buckled Brazier's legs with a right of his own and closed it out with a six-punch salvo.

"I really thought I was way ahead," said Brazier. "I must have hurt Mayweather nine or 10 times, but I couldn't finish him off. I guess I was too anxious. I had him right in the palm of my hand and let him slip away.

"I let him jab, but I waited too long to counter," added Brazier. "When I had Mayweather hurt, I should have gone to the body and really worked him over, finishing on top. But Mayweather did a beautiful job of surviving. He fought his heart out — like a champion. I'm going to keep on fighting and maybe I'll get a rematch."

(6-6-88)

JACK WELSH

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Harold Brazier rocks Roger Mayweather with a potent right during their torrid 12-rounder in Las Vegas. Mayweather retained the WBC super lightweight crown via a controversial split decision.

PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

Reyes Cruz (right) pulls away from attacking Hector Camacho during the "Macho Man's" latest comeback. While Camacho received the nod from the ringside judges, many fans felt Reyes was robbed.

CAMACHO - CRUZ

ATLANTIC CITY — MANY felt cheated with Hector Camacho's unpopular, though unanimous 10-round decision over Reyes Cruz, but it was a matter of perspective. Falling in the middle of a five-card monte building to the Tyson-Spinks jackpot, Hector made sure he didn't lack for visibility. While the "long weekend's" other principals tended toward solitude and closed workouts, the accessible Camacho showed up on the afternoon of his own fight at the Nelson-Suarez card. Working the crowd like a carnival pitchman for any signs of appreciation, he held court with anyone from prince to jester.

Just hours later, he bounced into the ring at The Tropicana resplendent in a leopard-skin loin cloth, looking like a cross between Tarzan and Travolta. Coiffed with identical "tails" in front and behind, he may have meant to confuse the opponent, who wouldn't know if Hector was coming or going. Spying the hand-held camera, the bubbly Macho Man picked up the beat of the canned intro and swung into a torrid bump-and-grind. Whether by bunglement or design, the protracted interlude kept Camacho jiggling until, by the time Reyes was ready to join the dance, Hector had already gone about five rounds.

The opening bell found the fired-up Camacho, 142, Spanish Harlem via Clewiston, Florida, uncharacteristically aggressive. He ripped into Cruz, 142, Santiago, Dominican Republic, with a dazzling variety that had the former junior welter title challenger appearing outclassed. It was only an appearance.

Late in the session, a swiping right cross sprawled the unbeaten Camacho on his face, down for the first time in 32 bouts. Fans warmed to the thought that they were witnessing history, but Hector later shrugged it off.

"I feel happy I got knocked down," he claimed. "Now I can say that I took a punch and got up from it."

Regardless, Hector was careful not to get "happy" again. One mark of outstanding fighters is that they don't get hit with the same thing twice, sort of boxing's version of "fool me twice, shame on me." Cruz tried backing away to lure Hector into the shot all night, but never again was it truly effective. A slightly more cautious Camacho swept the next three rounds on all cards.

From the fifth on, however, the pattern took a decided turn. Reyes began to lunge forward and Hector's response was to make like an octopus in heat. He never actually seemed tired, but the pre-fight "ballroom blitz" had left Hector too pooped to pop the second half.

Whenever Cruz got close, Camacho unabashedly smothered him in a tangle of limbs that had fans howling with indignation. The "Macho Man" resembled a subway groper, at one point reaching between Cruz' legs and grabbing his butt. A big 10th, in which the Dominican finally landed the long-sought right to jolt Camacho, did little for the Puerto Rican's cause.

When the verdict was announced, fans reacted with anger and amazement. Lynne Carter voted 96-95 (incorrectly rendered as 97-95), as did Al DeVito, while Eugene Grant tabbed 96-94. Those opposed were further confounded by the first round, which two judges (Carter and DeVito) called even, thus tipping the outcome to Camacho.

While ref Steve Smoger was excoriated for not deducting points for holding, it has to be defined where the line falls between fouling and "ring generalship."

Commissioner Larry Hazzard explained that a foul consists of "holding more than competing"... of which Camacho certainly seemed guilty.

Hector's brother, Felix "Showtime" Camacho, 121¾, Spanish Harlem/Clewiston, debuted with a unanimous win over stubborn Danny Faiello, 127, Pittsburgh, in a rugged four. Felix is an all-too-obvious copy of his brother, which wasn't received well by fans. Ref, Smoger.

In an early display of Fourth of July fireworks, Ray Ruiz, 155½, Passaic, NJ, came off the canvas to blast out Dave "Sugar" Wyatt, Jr., 154¼, Richmond, at 2:18 of the first, scheduled six. Ref, Frank Cappuccino. Manuel Rosario, Manuel Rosario, 126½, Pontiac, Mich., looked good, with a KO of tough Billy Brock, 125¾, Jefferson, PA, at 2:15 of the second, scheduled four. Brock visited the canvas twice. Ref, Cappuccino.

Promoters: Gerry Cooney & Dennis Rappaport (SuperFights Unlimited).
Matchmaker: Mike Acri.
Attendance: (Sellout) 1,838.
TV: USA Network.

Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
(6-25-88)

J.R. JOWETT

NELSON - SUAREZ

WBC Super Featherweight Title

ATLANTIC CITY — AZUMAH Nelson, 129¼, Accra, Ghana, made the initial defense of his WBC 130-pound crown a successful one as he won a scheduled 12-rounder by TKO at 0:27 of the ninth round over southpaw Lupe Suarez, 130, Corpus Christi, Texas at Trump Plaza.

It wasn't easy, and it might not have been fair, but so goes life in the squared circle.

With Angelo Dundee working his corner, the challenger came out in familiar fashion: straight ahead and busy. Round One was no feel em' out process, no warm up. The 29-year-old Nelson landed the best punch of the round, a left uppercut. But Lupe had a busy jab and a workmanlike right hook going for him in a close round.

The pace stayed the same in the second, with Suarez backing Nelson up for the most part. The champ looked a bit too patient in his counter punching mood, not taking full advantage of his superior craftsmanship.

Round Three was somewhat closer. Suarez took the lead, but Nelson picked off many shots and unloaded just enough, indicating that the veteran champion (WBC featherweight boss for three years) was leading Suarez slowly into his trap.

The fourth was a very good action round. For the first time, the champion physically took charge, finding time to counter the Texan's rushes. It appeared the challenger was confused and he showed the first signs of faltering.

The fifth saw Nelson try a different route and for two minutes he was up on his toes, popping and sliding, bobbing and weaving in artful fashion as he kept Lupe from opening up. However, once Nelson stood flat-footed, Suarez took the initiative and closed the round strongly.

A double right hook by Suarez visibly shook Nelson at the two- minute mark of the seventh. Suarez was at his busy best and Nelson was flat.

With the bell sounding the start of the next round, Nelson came out firing. He didn't need an invitation, an excuse or a mistake on Suarez part. Here was a champion who knew the fight was slipping away and he had to do something about it.

Nelson nearly bombed himself out as Lupe gritted his teeth and fought back, only to get nailed by a left-right combination that put him on the ropes where Nelson saw one last chance to capitalize on the situation.

As the bell rang to end Round Eight, Nelson let go yet another left hook. This time, Suarez, who had just started to turn to his corner, got hit with the punch that clearly landed after the bell. No warning, no added rest. Nelson's free shot was a biggy.

Suarez never recovered from the late hook. With the start of Round Nine, Nelson jumped right on him, landing a left, right, left hook combo that dropped Suarez near the ropes. He arose midway through the count of referee Tony Perez, but didn't respond well to questioning and the fight was stopped.

Amazingly, neither a placid Suarez nor a grin-and-bare-it Dundee put up any stink about the after-the-bell punch.

Nelson, 28-1 with 20 KOs, was leading 77-76 on the cards of both Ray Solis of California and Ismael Quinones of Puerto Rico, while Tom Kaczmarek of New Jersey saw it 76-76. *The Ring* agreed with Kaczmarek. Suarez, who has nothing to be ashamed of, fell to 25-2 with 20 KOs.

WBA junior middleweight champion Julian Jackson (158, Virgin Islands), had an easy time of it in a scheduled 10-round non-title bout. He won by TKO at just one minute of Round One over a soft-looking Efren Olivo, 160, Harlingen, Texas. Olivo was floored three times and the bout was automatically halted by referee Randy Neumann. The punch that started it all was a left hook. Jackson is now listed at 33-1 with 30 KOs. Olivo was reported to be 24-10 with 15 KOs coming in.

Two shop-worn fighters did the best they could in a mild upset. Eduardo Valdez, 114¼, a Colombian now boxing out of Miami, Florida, received an eight-round majority decision over Mario Cusson, 143¾, Montreal. Valdez took the card of John Potujai 79-74, and got a 77-75 from William Kostrub. Richard F. Murry had it tabbed 76-76 all. *The Ring* gave it to Valdez by one point, 77-76. Referee, Joe Cortez.

Steve Frank, 148, Miami, disposed of Tracy Muse, 143, Baltimore, winning a scheduled six by TKO at 2:48 of Round Two. Muse was dropped by a right hand, arose at four, but referee Cortez ruled it over, anyway.

Joe Gatti, 154, Montreal, took a four-round unanimous decision over Lamark Davis, 154¼, Dayton, Ohio. Gatti started and finished strong. Scores: Potujai and Kostrub had it 39-37, Murry saw it 40-37. Referee, Neumann.

Kevin Fasick, 155, Altoona, Pa., took a scheduled four when he won by knockout over Ruben Torres, 154, Cleveland, at 1:50 of the first. The lone knockdown came from a right uppercut. Referee, Neumann.

Timekeeper: Art Spell.
Promoter: Don King Productions.
Matchmaker: Mike Acri.
Television: CBS.
(6-25-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

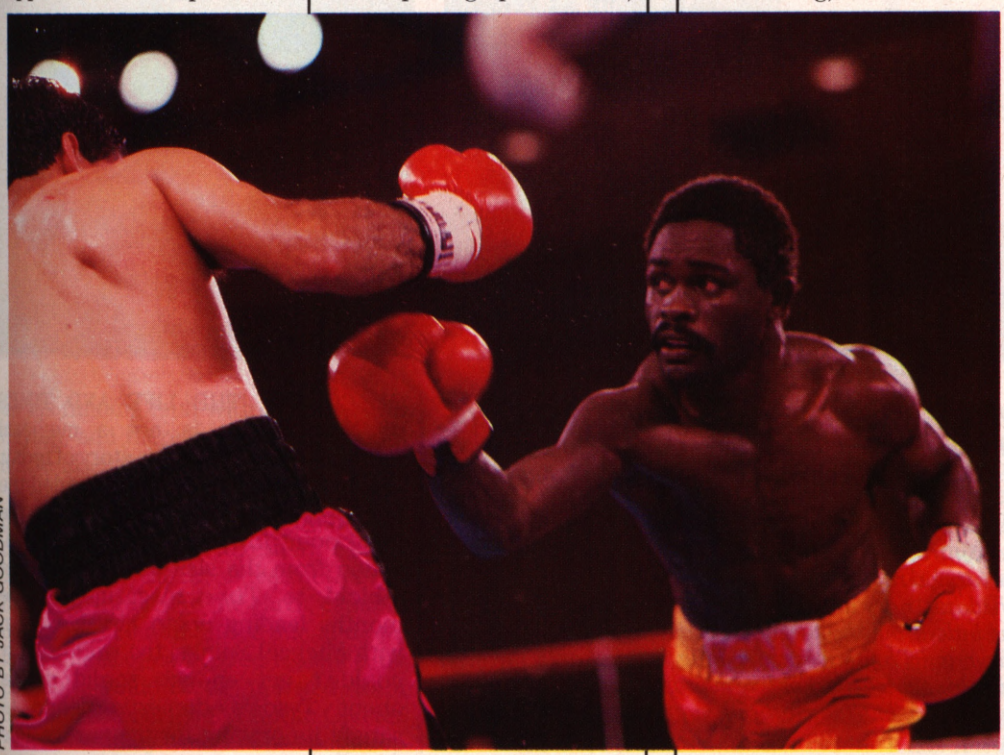


PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

Defending WBC super featherweight champ Azumah Nelson (right) attacks challenger Lupe Suarez en route to a ninth-round TKO in Atlantic City.

WHAT PRICE GLORY?

Tyson Threatens To Retire As Personal Problems Overshadow Spinks Victory

by Nigel Collins

Something is dreadfully wrong in Camelot.

The newly crowned warrior/king, his domain lying in chaos at his sockless feet, has threatened to abdicate the throne. His queen, booed by her not-so-loyal subjects on the very night of her husband's coronation, stands accused, along with the queen mother, of being more interested in the crown jewels than the head on which they rest.

His two beloved mentors gone to their eternal reward, the king knows not who to trust as warring factions battle to gain favor in his court. Only on the field of combat, where he controls his own destiny by the power of his hand, can the mighty monarch find a kind of peace.

But what should have been the sovereign's shining moment degenerated into a sideshow, lost in the whirlwind of controversy which enveloped both his professional and personal life. Yet, despite the turmoil raging back at the palace, the king rode forth and dispatched his foe, shedding nary a drop of sweat in the process. And with this deed did prove he was indeed the "best fighter on the planet."

Now, like Ulysses returned from the Trojan wars, our king is faced with the always unpleasant task of cleaning his own castle. For like men of action throughout the ages, he has discovered that the dragons which dwell in one's own soul are always the most difficult to slay. —*Ancient Parable*

OF COURSE, THE LIFE AND TIMES of Mike Tyson is not a medieval folktale. It's very much a story of today. It's a story which has transcended the pages of *The Ring* and become the focal point for practically every publication from the sleaziest supermarket tabloid to *Time* magazine. In the months leading up to his showdown with Michael Spinks, the world simply couldn't get enough sordid details about Tyson's domestic debris to satisfy its craving for the tawdry. Pile

It's the beginning of the end for Michael Spinks as Mike Tyson (left) connects with a mighty left hook to the head. Tyson devastated Spinks for two knockdowns and a first-round kayo.

PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

on his running feud with manager Bill Cayton, and there wasn't much room left to discuss the fight.

But the fight — and its immense purse — was the glue which bound the cast of characters together. For if Tyson was not the most destructive fist fighter on the face of the earth, capable of earning $20 million for one and one half minutes of controlled violence, he probably wouldn't be married to a beautiful actress named Robin Givens. And he certainly wouldn't be caught up in a power struggle between his new family, Cayton and another King named Don.

Three days after the biggest victory of his 35-0 (31 KOs) career, Tyson celebrated his 22nd birthday by announcing his retirement from the ring. While nobody took Mike too seriously, the announcement is certainly indicative of the champion's troubled state of mind. Most observers agree, Tyson is just burned out and looking for some time off and perhaps a way to wiggle out of his contract with Cayton, who might go for a buyout if faced with the prospect of a protracted dispute. But one thing is for sure, fame and fortune has not made Tyson a happy man.

"I can't appreciate what you reporters did to me," said Tyson minutes after dispatching Spinks, his normally high-pitched voice raising another half octave as he shook an accusing finger at the assembled press. "You tried to embarrass my family, you tried to disgrace them. Once I became vulnerable, you attacked the people I love, like my wife and my mother-in-law. That's the only way you can get to me. As far as I know, this might be my last fight."

Though it is difficult to know exactly when things started to come unraveled for Tyson, the death of co-manager and dear friend Jim Jacobs is as good a place to start as any. Cynics say Tyson's public image was only a product of Jacobs' creativity and marketing expertise and was doomed to fall apart when Jacobs died earlier this year. Others claim the problems began when Mike married Givens shortly before Jacobs' death, and that she and her mother, Ruth Roper, are gold diggers, scheming to steal Tyson away from Cayton in order to fleece the champ themselves. And all the while, in the background, circling like a hungry shark, is King, eager to take advantage of the situation and lure Tyson deeper into his lair.

Much of the controversy surrounding Mike Tyson centered on his wife, Robin Givens, (left) and his mother-in-law, Ruth Roper, pictured here at the official weigh-in. PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

However, Tyson is hardly blameless. According to his sister-in-law, Mike has physically and mentally abused his wife, kicked down a hotel room door and trashed a movie set in a drunken rage. Even if these stories are a complete fabrication, nobody is denying Tyson tried to give away his Bentley to a couple of New York Port Authority cops when he was involved in a minor fender-bender in Manhattan; not exactly the act of a well-adjusted adult.

But let's give credit where credit is due. Despite the distractions and the soap opera atmosphere which surrounded his training camp, Tyson came through like a real pro. Once the bell rang, he was in his element and the guy

SEND IN THE CLOWNS

Carl 'The Truth' Williams (left) has Trevor Berbick covering up on the ropes during their tepid 12-round bout on the Tyson-Spinks undercard. PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

ATLANTIC CITY — SO MIKE TYSON SAYS he's retired. Hey, who could blame him? Tyson's taken a far worse beating in the press than he's ever had in the ring, and the future doesn't forbode change.

Before Tyson's 91-second dismissal of Michael Spinks, several potential challengers displayed their wares (and tears) in a series of embarrassing exhibitions that merely served to demonstrate just how barren the heavyweight division really is. It was a typical Don King undercard — watch it and you go under. Five hours of maddening boredom.

Tyson may be the new heavyweight king, but his list of challengers reads like a who's who of court jesters.

Send in the clowns.

First up was Canada's Donovan "Razor" Ruddock, 226, and Reggie Gross, 225, Baltimore. The 22-year-old, 6-3 Ruddock somehow managed to go and get himself stopped by David Jaco in 1985, but that's his only loss and he quickly made Gross his 14th KO victim at 1:36 of the second round.

A left-right dropped Gross in the second. He got up at four, but Ruddock landed another right and referee Rudy Battle jumped in before the 21,785 in Atlantic City's Convention Hall had the chance to put away their No-Doz. Ruddock, who had blasted out Larry Alexander and Ken Lakusta in two previous outings, has the size and power to give anyone trouble. Anyone but Tyson, that is. Though Ruddock displayed a fast overhand right, he needs a heap of seasoning before thinking of tangling with "Iron Mike."

Send in the clowns.

Next up was Ohio's James "Buster" Douglas, 234, against Texan Mike Williams, 215. Douglas, who defines the term journeyman, was brought in to lose to Williams, *The Ring's* Prospect of the Year in 1987. Williams had just one loss, a split decision to Tim Witherspoon in a blistering contest, and King and company figured a good win over Douglas would establish the well-built Williams as a legitimate threat to Tyson.

But the great body of Williams didn't look so hot floundering around the canvas, which is where he spent a good

in the other corner was in for a very painful experience.

Spinks, the guy in the other corner on June 27th, was almost a forgotten man leading up to the fight. Though his status as the legitimate world champion was reinforced when *The Ring* championship belt was presented to him at the last formal press conference five days prior to the fight, it was his lone moment in the spotlight. Throughout the massive pre-fight build-up he was treated more like a bit player than the co-star. Ironically, the way Spinks fought ultimately vindicated those who gave him the brush-off. His effort proved embarrassingly unworthy of his previous career . . . not to mention his $13 million purse!

Tyson's personal and managerial problems were not the only hassles to receive widespread publicity. There was also a raging debate over how many rounds the match would be scheduled. It was the IBF's turn to officiate and president Bob Lee wanted 15 rounds in accordance with his organization's rules. The ever-cooperative WBC and WBA insisted the bout be scheduled for no more than 12. Threats of title strippings ran rampant for weeks, but in the end, Lee and the IBF acquiesced, accepted a six-figure sanctioning fee and gave the bout its dubious blessing.

While the fight (?) turned out to be an artistic flop, it was a financial masterpiece. The live gate of $13 million, created by a crowd of 21,785, broke all existing records for a one-day sporting event, giving host Donald Trump a tidy profit even before the first dollar was wagered at any of his three Atlantic City casinos. And while closed-circuit and pay-per-view revenues were still being tallied at press time, all indications point towards the bout emerging as one of, if not the biggest boxing bonanza in history.

Unfortunately, never has so little cost so much. Practically everyone, with the possible exception of the Tyson camp, expected at least a tiny bit more.

Spinks brought an unblemished 31-0 (21 KOs) record into the fray and a reputation of upsetting the odds. After all, hadn't he accomplished, by winning the heavyweight championship, what no light heavyweight champion had ever accomplished before? Hadn't he also proved he was a legitimate heavyweight by pulverizing Gerry Cooney a little over a year ago? Wasn't he the only boxer capable of giving Tyson a decent fight? The answer to the first two questions are yes and maybe, but to the third and most important, the reply has to be a resounding NO!

Those gathered inside Atlantic City's cavernous Convention Hall and the millions of television viewers around the globe were practically in a stupor by the time Tyson and Spinks entered the ring. King's marathon undercard was bad enough, but when Spinks' promoter, Butch Lewis, insisted Tyson rebandage his hands, the delay dragged on and on. Soon, anticipation turned to apathy and the fans, who had been in a festive mood earlier in the evening, were strangely quiet as referee Frank Cappuccino gave the fighters their final instructions.

Tyson-Spinks

Continued on Page 36

deal of the time before being cold-cocked at 2:45 of the seventh.

Douglas, showing a lot more spunk than usual, pressured Williams to carry the first two rounds, then made an amazing discovery in the third. Douglas threw a strong left jab and Williams went down! A fluke? No way. Later in the same round another jab decked Williams again. That familiar tinkling was not the sound of slot machines.

Williams managed to stay on his feet in the next three frames and actually appeared to be crawling back into the battle when yet another jab floored him in the seventh. One would have thought the ghost of Sonny Liston had somehow taken over the body of Douglas. Each time he was dropped, Williams got up. But he was hurt, and after the third knockdown Douglas tried a new approach. He connected with the jab again, but this time followed with a right. That shot ironed Mike to the canvas.

"I have a good jab," said Douglas. "I had a good jab even back in the amateurs. I was very confident coming in. This was a very big chance for me fighting in front of the whole world as part of such an important boxing event. James Douglas is here to stay."

Send in the clowns.

Leading up to the main event was the 12-round match between Carl "The Truth" Williams against Florida's Trevor Berbick, 220.

This was billed as a 12-round IBF elimination, the winner to face Tyson. It was an elimination, all right. It eliminated both from serious consideration.

Williams wound up with the decision, which wasn't surprising. Though some media types insist on calling Berbick a former heavyweight champion of the world, it should be remembered that some media types will say anything for a paycheck. Berbick has never been anything more than routine and at age almost-35 he ain't gettin' any better. And who could forget the sight of Berbick flopping around the canvas like a beached whale as Tyson stood by waiting to finish their first match? That he and Williams were meeting to determine who would challenge Tyson says a ton about the present class of heavyweights.

Williams, now fighting out of Absecon, New Jersey, is an imposing specimen at 6-4, 224¼. He moves well, throws sharp punches and seems to have a good idea of what he's doing in the ring. But his chin has always been suspect, and no one wants to see another 91-second blitz by Tyson. Even for free.

"I'm very happy with the result and look forward to a title fight," said Williams. "I've been off weights for awhile, but I'll be going back on. That will help me remain physically strong in the later rounds."

Later rounds? Would there be any later rounds should Tyson come face to face with "The Truth?" Would anyone pay to see if there were any later rounds? At the post-fight press conference, Tyson, pulling no punches as usual, asked, "After tonight, would you pay to see me fight Carl Williams?"

Not one affirmative reply was forthcoming. Maybe some of these guys would be even money to beat George Foreman. Maybe. But Mike Tyson?

And the rest of the top 10 isn't any better. If Tyson missed Frank Bruno's chin with a jab, the Brit would likely go down. Evander Holyfield? He needs at least another year, not to bulk up but for seasoning. But better yet, maybe he should wait until Tyson really does retire.

Meanwhile, there's just one alternative — send in the clowns. □

PHILL MARDER

The RING RATINGS AS OF JULY 6, 1988

HEAVYWEIGHTS (No Weight Limit) WORLD CHAMPION

MIKE TYSON	New Jersey
1. Evander Holyfield	Georgia
2. Carl Williams	New Jersey
3. Tim Witherspoon	Pennsylvania
4. Tony Tucker	Michigan
5. Michael Spinks	Missouri
6. Adilson Rodrigues	Brazil
7. Donovan Ruddock	Canada
8. Michael Dokes	Ohio
9. Pinklon Thomas	Michigan
10. Johnny DuPlooy	South Africa

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS (Not Over 175 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Charles Williams	Ohio
2. Virgil Hill	North Dakota
3. Dennis Andries	England
4. Don Lalonde	Canada
5. Tony Willis	Illinois
6. Bobby Czyz	New Jersey
7. Fulgencio Obelmejias	Venezuela
8. Chong-Pal Park	Korea
9. Lindell Holmes	Michigan
10. Graciano Rocchigiani	Germany

MIDDLEWEIGHTS (Not Over 160 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

SUMBU KALAMBAY	Italy
1. Frank Tate	Texas
2. Iran Barkley	New York
3. Michael Nunn	California
4. Thomas Hearns	Michigan
5. Herol Graham	England
6. Mike McCallum	Jamaica
7. Matthew Hilton	Canada
8. Gianfranco Rosi	*Italy*
9. Donald Curry	*Texas*
10. Julian Jackson	*Virgin Islands*

WELTERWEIGHTS (Not Over 147 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

LLOYD HONEYGHAN	England
1. Marlon Starling	Connecticut
2. Simon Brown	Washington, D.C.
3. Maurice Blocker	Washington, D.C.
4. Mark Breland	New York
5. Jorge Vaca	Mexico
6. Rollin Williams	Arizona
7. Juan Martin Coggi	Argentina
8. Roger Mayweather	Nevada
9. James McGirt	New York
10. Meldrick Taylor	Pennsylvania

LIGHTWEIGHTS (Not Over 135 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Julio Cesar Chavez	Mexico
2. Greg Haugen	Washington
3. Pernell Whitaker	Virginia
4. Jose Luis Ramirez	Mexico
5. Edwin Rosario	Puerto Rico
6. Vinny Pazienza	Rhode Island
7. Rocky Lockridge	New Jersey
8. Amancio Castro	Colombia
9. Azumah Nelson	Ghana
10. Primo Ramos	Mexico

FEATHERWEIGHTS (Not Over 126 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA	Venezuela
1. Jeff Fenech	Australia
2. Calvin Grove	Pennsylvania
3. Marcos Villasana	Mexico
4. Juan Jose Estrada	Mexico
5. Jeff Franklin	Nevada
6. Hector Lopez	Mexico
7. Bernardo Pinango	Venezuela
8. Victor Callejas	Puerto Rico
9. Julio Gervacio	Venezuela
10. Jesse Benavides	Arizona

BANTAMWEIGHTS (Not Over 118 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Miguel Lora	Colombia
2. Kaosai Galaxy	Thailand
3. Kelvin Seabrooks	South Carolina
4. Gilberto Roman	Mexico
5. Raul Perez	Mexico
6. Kaokor Galaxy	Thailand
7. Santos Laciar	Argentina
8. Sugar Baby Rojas	Colombia
9. Wilfredo Vasquez	Puerto Rico
10. Orlando Canizales	Texas

FLYWEIGHTS (Not Over 112 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

SOT CHITALADA	Thailand
1. Jung-Koo Chang	Korea
2. Fidel Bassa	Colombia
3. Myung-Woo Yuh	Korea
4. Hilario Zapata	Panama
5. Rolando Bohol	Philippines
6. Gabriel Bernal	Mexico
7. Dodie Penalosa	Philippines
8. Ray Medel	Texas
9. Duke McKenzie	England
10. Miguel Mercedes	Dominican Republic

The RING CALENDAR OCTOBER 1988

1 SATURDAY
1975—Muhammad Ali TKO14 Joe Frazier to retain world heavyweight championship. "Thrilla in Manila" named *The Ring's* Fight of the Year, with Round 12 Round of the Year.

2 SUNDAY
1906—Tommy Burns KO15 Fireman Jim Flynn to retain world heavyweight championship in Los Angeles.

3 MONDAY
1951—Dave Sands W10 Bobo Olson in Chicago, first fight televised coast-to-coast.

4 TUESDAY
1986—Bernardo Pinango TKO10 Ciro de Leva to retain world bantamweight championship in Italy.

5 WEDNESDAY
1952—Kid Gavilan W15 Billy Graham in Havana to retain world welterweight championship in first fight televised outside the US.

6 THURSDAY
1984—Hugo Hernandez KO3 Kevin Austin in Buenos Aires.

7 FRIDAY
1932—Benny Leonard retires after being stopped in six by Jimmy McLarnin in New York. Leonard had 213 fights.

8 SATURDAY
1960—Len Matthews KO3 Kenny Lane in Los Angeles to begin ABC-TV Saturday night fight series.

9 SUNDAY
1985—Ji-Won Kim retained IBF jr. featherweight title by knocking out Seung-Il Suh in 1:06 in Korea.

10 MONDAY
1949—Kazuo Kobayashi, WBC super bantam titleholder for 6½ weeks in 1976, born in Japan.

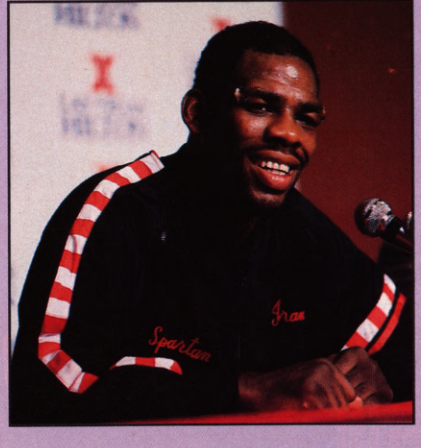
11 TUESDAY
1811—"Bendigo" (William Thompson), early champion of England, born in Nottingham.

12 WEDNESDAY
1985—Azumah Nelson knocks out Pat Cowdell in 2:24 to retain WBC featherweight title in Birmingham, England.

13 THURSDAY
1872—Former world middleweight champion Charles "Kid" McCoy born in Indiana.

14 FRIDAY
1935—Former world junior middleweight champion Ralph Dupas born in New Orleans.

Iran Barkley



15 SATURDAY
1976—Roberto Duran retains world lightweight championship in Hollywood, Florida, knocking out Alvaro Rojas in 1:59.

16 SUNDAY
1909—Jack Johnson KO12 Stanley Ketchel in Colma, California to retain world heavyweight championship.

17 MONDAY
1960—Lightweight Darryl Tyson born in Washington, D.C.

18 TUESDAY
1973—Ben Villaflor regains world junior lightweight title in Honolulu, knocking out Kuniaki Shibata in 1:56.

19 WEDNESDAY
1985—Lee Roy Murphy KO12 Chisanda Mutti, retains IBF cruiserweight title in Chicago.

20 THURSDAY
1955—Former WBA and IBF junior welterweight titleholder Aaron Pryor born in Cincinnati.

21 FRIDAY
1956—Jean Sneyers TKO4 Hogan "Kid" Bassey in Liege, Belgium, in first fight televised to all Europe.

22 SATURDAY
1966—Carlos Ortiz TKO5 Sugar Ramos in Mexico City to retain world lightweight championship. Final round, *The Ring's* Round of the Year.

23 SUNDAY
1902—Corporal Izzy Schwartz, who claimed New York world flyweight title, born in New York City.

24 MONDAY
1894—Ted "Kid" Lewis, twice world welterweight champion, born in London.

25 TUESDAY
1968—Dick Tiger W10 Frank DePaula in New York in *The Ring's* Fight of the Year.

26 WEDNESDAY
1951—Rocky Marciano KO8 Joe Louis in New York. Last round *The Ring's* Round of the Year.

27 THURSDAY
1953—Yoshio Shirai W15 Terry Allen, retains flyweight crown in first world championship fight televised in Japan.

28 FRIDAY
1975—Former light heavyweight champion Georges Carpentier dies in Paris.

29 SATURDAY
1956—Wilfredo Gomez born in Puerto Rico.

30 SUNDAY
1974—Muhammad Ali KO8 George Foreman in Zaire, regains world heavyweight championship in *The Ring's* Fight of the Year and Round of the Year.

31 MONDAY
1971—Koichi Wajima W15 Carmelo Bossi, wins world junior middleweight championship in Tokyo.

Tyson-Spinks

From Page 33

Spinks, a career high 212¼, looked sick with worry as he waited passively for the opening bell. Most people figured he had been joking several months earlier when he begged "Please don't make me go in there" at the press conference announcing the fight. When the moment of truth was at hand, his fear seemed genuine enough.

Tyson, on the other hand, looked eager to get it on as he limbered up in his corner. All of his worries temporarily set aside, he was more than ready to take out his frustrations on the man standing across the ring — though the kiss he gave Spinks after the damage was done indicated there was no real animosity.

It was no big surprise when Tyson, 218¼, charged out at the first bell and took the fight to Spinks. In fact, it would have been a shock if he had done anything else. Spinks, wearing supportive bandages on both knees, avoided Tyson's initial rush, but was soon in serious trouble.

Tyson stepped up the pressure and suddenly nailed Spinks flush with a savage left hook to the head. Spinks' brain was still trying to unscramble its circuits when Tyson followed with a whistling right to the body. Spinks sank to the canvas as the crowd woke up with a collective yell.

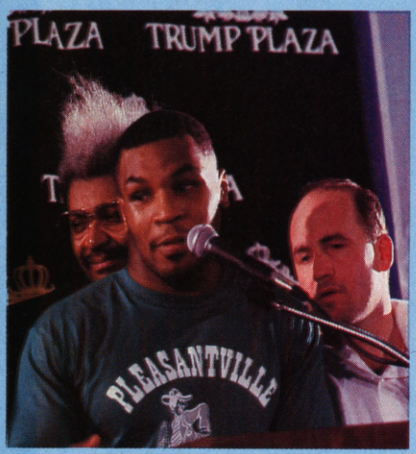
Though he'd been punished with a couple of potent blows, Spinks quickly regained his feet and seemed in full control of his faculties as Cappuccino gave him the mandatory eight-count. At this juncture, it still seemed possible he would regroup and make a fight of it. However, appearances can be deceiving. Spinks was only seconds away from the first loss of his professional career.

Tyson charged again and Spinks gamely tried to nail him coming in with a right of his own. But the "Spinks Jinx" sailed harmlessly over Tyson's ducking head, leaving Spinks wide open for a counter. Tyson obliged, ripping home a right of his own that connected with the right side of Spinks' turned face with enough force to end the fight.

Spinks went over backwards, cracking his head on the floor as he fell. He rolled over halfway through the count and made it to his hands and knees before falling forward once again. Cappuccino's count was a formality. Spinks was done and so was the fight, just 91 seconds after it began.

King had christened the fight "Once And For All," but maybe "One, And That's All" would have been more appropriate. It certainly wasn't boxing's finest hour. Heck, it wasn't even the best 91 seconds of the weekend. That came Saturday night when Hector Camacho got knocked on his leopard-skin diaper. But the fact Tyson-Spinks turned out to be a mismatch is secondary. It was a fight that had to happen, a fight boxing needed to set the record straight and save the integrity of heavyweight championship genealogy.

Despite his obvious shortcomings once the fight started, Spinks, by virtue of his 1985 victory over Larry Holmes, held the most valid claim to the throne. It didn't matter that practically everybody conceded Tyson was the better fighter. He had to beat Spinks in the ring, not the Alphabet Boys' backroom, to claim the true title. Though the fight



Mike Tyson chastises the media during the post-fight press conference as trainer Kevin Rooney and promoter Don King listen in.
PHOTO BY JOHN GALLAHER

QUOTE BOARD

happened after the first knockdown:

"I thought after getting hurt that he would try to press me and I'd catch him coming in. When I saw a shot I felt I could take, I took it. But I came up short and he hit me with the uppercut. It doesn't take a very hard punch to knock anybody out. You hit 'em in the right spot, everybody goes."

Spinks' trainer **Eddie Futch**, speaking of a fight plan that never had a chance to develop:

"I expected Tyson to come out the way he did. He comes out that way for everybody. But I thought Michael would be able to handle it better than he did. I had planned for him to box more and show more movement."

Former heavyweight champion **George Foreman,** a veteran of five marriages, offering Tyson domestic counsel:

"You can be dethroned in your home. A woman can bring you to your knees."

Bill Cayton, reacting to the lawsuit filed by Tyson in an attempt to break his contract with his manager:

"I'm outraged at this lawsuit. I'm very disappointed in Mike. I thought Mike would respect the memory of Jim Jacobs."

Jacobs' widow, **Lorraine Jacobs,** commenting on the same lawsuit:

"I can't believe Mike would do this. It's disgusting."

Cayton's attorney, **Tom Puccio,** explaining the basis for Tyson's lawsuit:

"Simply put, Tyson accuses Jacobs of fraudulently inducing him to sign his management contract by not telling him of his (Jacobs') impending death."

Evander Holyfield, trying to sound tough in the wake of Spinks' rapid demise:

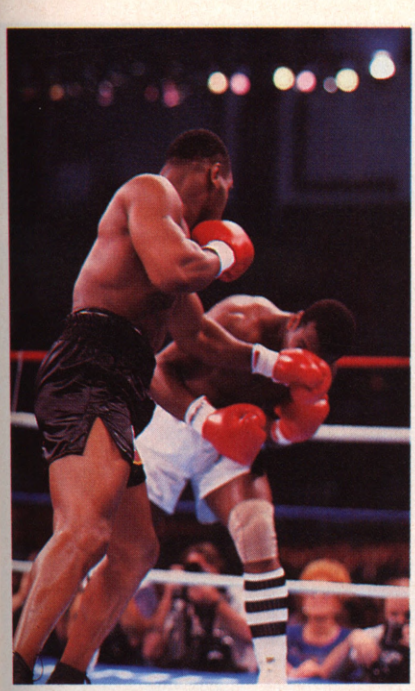
"I'm not going to let a reputation whup me. I feel like he's got to prove it to me. Just because he beat someone else doesn't mean he can beat me."

Promoter **Don King,** addressing the problem of future opponents for Tyson:

"Nature has a way of replenishing itself."

A final word from **Spinks:**

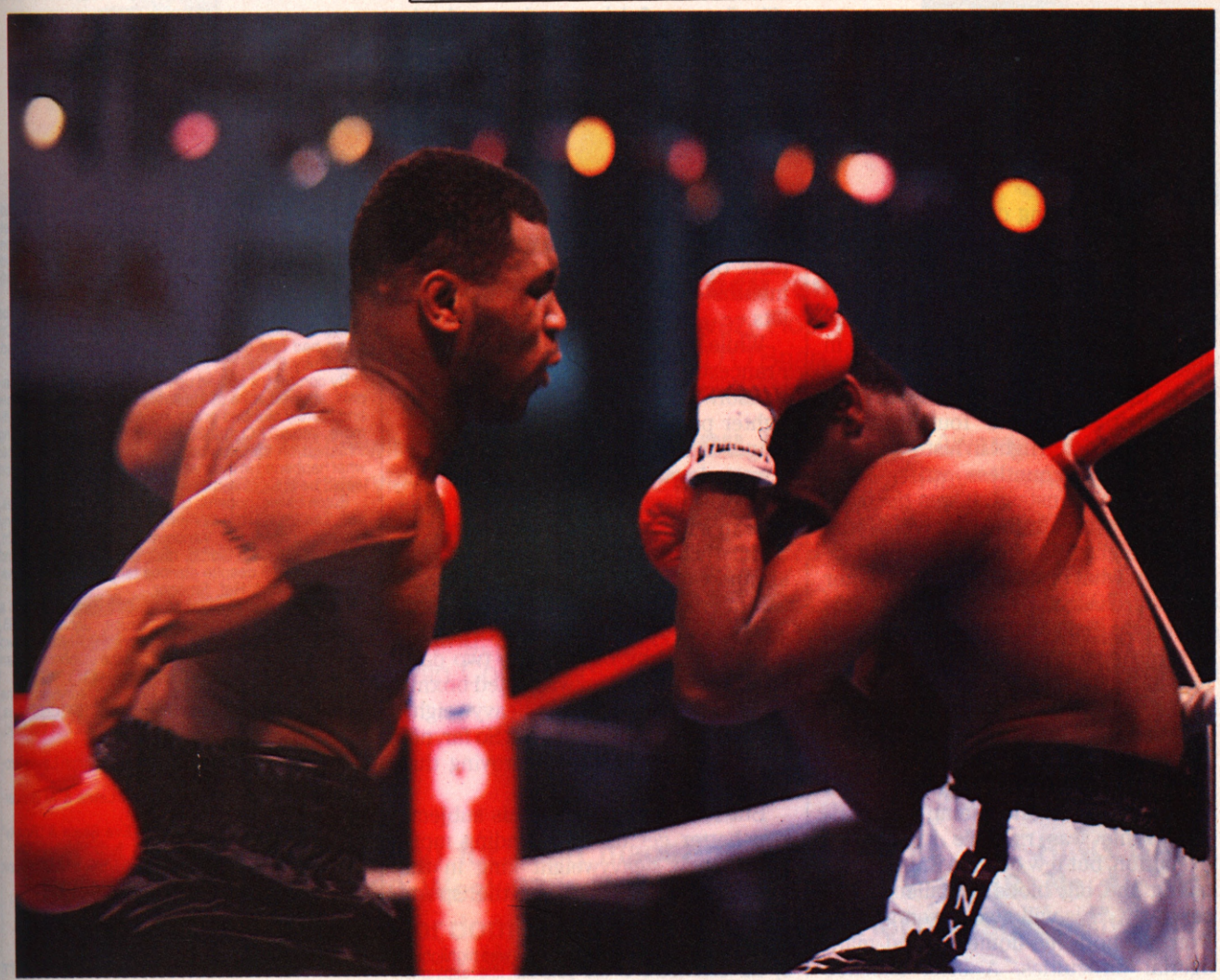
"I was never that thrilled about getting in the ring with him." □



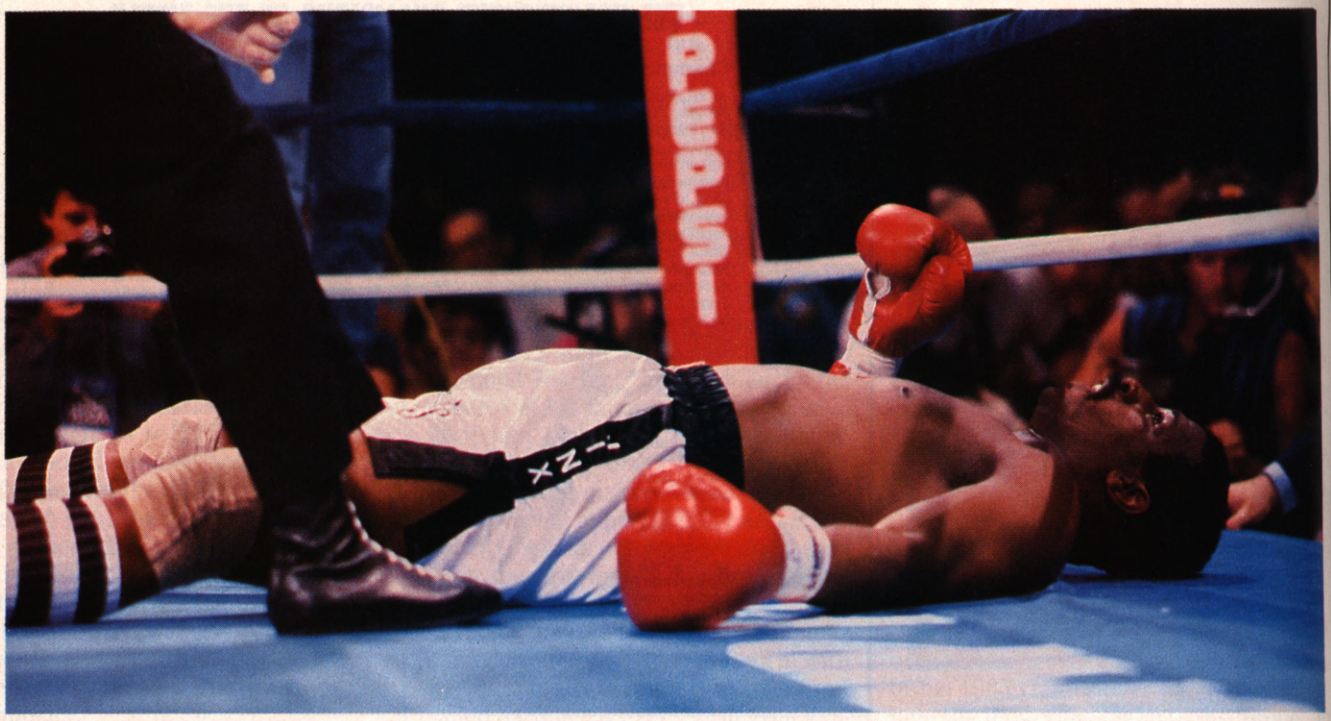
THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD

No.	Champion	Age	Weight	Years	Defenses
1	John L. Sullivan	26	195	1885-92	0
2	James J. Corbett	26	178	1892-97	1
3	Bob Fitzsimmons	33	167	1897-99	0
4	James J. Jeffries	24	206	1899-05	7
5	Marvin Hart	28	190	1905-06	0
6	Tommy Burns	24	180	1906-08	11
7	Jack Johnson	30	221	1908-15	8
8	Jess Willard	33	230	1915-19	1
9	Jack Dempsey	24	187	1919-26	5
10	Gene Tunney	29	189½	1926-28	2
11	Max Schmeling	24	188	1930-32	1
12	Jack Sharkey	29	205	1932-33	0
13	Primo Carnera	26	260½	1933-34	2
14	Max Baer	25	209½	1934-35	0
15	James J. Braddock	29	194	1935-37	0
16	Joe Louis	23	197¼	1937-49	25
17	Ezzard Charles	29	182	1949-51	8
18	Jersey Joe Walcott	37	194	1951-52	1
19	Rocky Marciano	29	184	1952-56	6
20	Floyd Patterson	21	182¼	1956-59	4
21	Ingemar Johansson	26	196	1959-60	0
22	Floyd Patterson	25	190	1960-62	2
23	Sonny Liston	30	214	1962-64	1
24	Muhammad Ali	22	210½	1964-70	9
25	Joe Frazier	26	205	1970-73	4
26	George Foreman	25	217½	1973-74	2
27	Muhammad Ali	32	216½	1974-78	10
28	Leon Spinks	24	197¼	1978-78	0
29	Muhammad Ali	36	221	1978-79	0
30	Larry Holmes	30	211½	1980-85	12
31	Michael Spinks	29	200	1985-88	2
32	Mike Tyson	21	218¼	1988-	0

—Weight is on day of title-winning effort.
—Defenses include successful only.



Spinks cringes on the ropes as Tyson winds up with a big right to the body. Spinks was completely outclassed and only managed to last 91 seconds with the raging Tyson.
PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN



It's all over as Spinks goes down and out.
PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

WHAT PRICE GLORY?

was a flop, boxing once again had an undisputed heavyweight champion whose lineage can be traced all the way back to John L. Sullivan.

(Lost in the rush to declare Tyson champion before he earned the title in the ring was one rather significant record: the 91 seconds he took to blitz Spinks was not the fourth fastest heavyweight title fight in history as was reported by countless writers and broadcasters. Instead, it was *the* quickest bout of all time in which the heavyweight title changed hands).

But at what price has boxing's honor been purchased? What will be the aftermath of a fight which promised (and cost) so much, yet delivered practically nothing in the way of competitive combat?

Tyson's scheduled defense against brittle-chinned Brit Frank Bruno in September will probably be postponed to accommodate the champ's sabbatical. Bruno was ringside for Spinks' execution, but few outside England are taking the big bloke's challenge too seriously. This will give Tyson time to iron out both his domestic and managerial difficulties. A brief absence from the ring will also give the paying customers a chance to wash the bad taste of the Spinks fight out of their mouths . . . and to refurbish their wallets.

While there is also talk of fights with Francesco Damiani in Italy and maybe Adilson Rodrigues in Brazil, the only fighter perceived as a legitimate challenger is Evander Holyfield. But that's a ways down the line. The "Real Deal" is at least a year away from risking his hide in such a perilous endeavor.

But just because there's nobody around worth fighting, it doesn't mean the fans are any less enthralled with Tyson than before. In a readers phone-in poll taken by *USA Today* two days after the fight, Tyson was voted boxing history's second best heavyweight, right behind Muhammad Ali. So far, nobody has come close to proving that assessment wrong.

But for the time being, his subjects had better get used to reading more about their heavyweight king in the gossip columns than on the sports page. □

The undercard of the marathon show was highlighted by the reactivations of two potential title aspirants, Maurice Blocker and Anthony Witherspoon, in scheduled 10s. Both prevailed over useful opponents in get-the-rust-off encounters. Blocker, 148, Washington, D.C., had the tougher foe, and looked the sharper with a TKO of rugged journeyman Orlando Orozco, 149, Caracas via Miami.

Orozco stood and traded until left hooks to the ribs set up two knockdowns in the third. After the fifth, Orlando had had enough and elected to remain seated. Ref, Rudy Battle.

By contrast, a bulked up Witherspoon, 200, Philadelphia, showed none of the finesse of which he's capable and merely clubbed green kid Alex Stanley, 188, Baltimore, into a TKO at 2:28 of the fifth. Stanley was being thrashed on the strands when Battle stopped it. After what happened in the main event, perhaps Witherspoon would be wise to return to light heavy.

Butch Lewis' hopeful, Glenn "The Promise" Thomas, 156, Las Vegas, got all he wanted from veteran Johnny "Rasta" Herbert, 157, Vancouver, in a hard-fought eight. Thomas endured some middle-rounds shelling and countered well despite obvious fatigue to gain a close, majority verdict. Ref, Smoger.

Crude slugger Rodolfo Marin, 219, San Juan, won a unanimous decision over Bruce Johnson, 195, Youngstown, four. Marin clobbered Johnson for two standing eights in the second, but the stubborn Ohioan forced him the full route. Ref, Smoger.

Lanky lefty Jerry Jones, 196, DC, survived some rough early going to blast Billy Milsop, 194, Columbus, OH, to the canvas twice, for a TKO at 2:27 of the third, scheduled four. Ref, Smoger.

Promoters: Don King Productions & Butch Lewis Promotions.

Matchmakers: Don King, Butch Lewis & Al Braverman.

Judges: Main: John Stewart, Eva Shain & "Rocky" Castellani.

Undercard: Frank Brunette, Richard F. Murry & Frank Cairo.

Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker.

Announcer: Mike Buffer.

Attendance: 21,785.

(6-27-88)

J.R. JOWETT

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BARKLEY GIVES HEARNS THE BIG CHILL

"Hit Man" Looks To Rematch For Redemption Following Stunning Defeat

by Jack Welsh

LAS VEGAS — SINCE THE DAWNING when early man had original thoughts while housekeeping in caves, there has been a running debate whether or not it is worthwhile to know your destiny in advance. And while Thomas Hearns is cognizant of his immediate future — a projected rematch with conqueror Iran Barkley — it's certainly not the future he had in mind.

How could Hearns, his connections and his avid admirers — or even his detractors — have forecast what happened to the angular athlete from Detroit on the inaugural weekend of June? How could most of us have guessed that Hearns, totally in control during the first eight minutes of combat, would suddenly find himself in the twilight zone compliments of two smashing rights from the fists of Barkley? How many seers foresaw the sight of the "Hit Man" twisted on the lower strand, with those trademark arms flailing back over the ring apron at the Las Vegas Hilton Center where 8,541 spectators reacted like a convention of mutes?

Well, at least one soothsayer called it right on the money. His name? Iran Barkley, of course!

"I plan to finish this man," boasted Barkley 72 hours before he bombed Hearns for the WBC belt. "It's just another fight. There is nowhere for Hearns to go but out. I know Tommy is going to be dangerous in the first four rounds — that's if it goes into the fourth. The man has the title and he's

Iran "The Blade" Barkley distorts the face of Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns during their punchout for the WBC middleweight title in Las Vegas. Behind on points and bleeding from cuts over both eyes, Barkley pulled victory from the jaws of defeat with a third-round knockout.

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO

trying to protect it, but I came to Las Vegas to take it. This fight ain't gonna be a decision. It will be a knockout. I just don't know the round. But I know Iran Barkley will be the one standing with the belt."

And all this coming from a 4-1 underdog, from a raw-skilled brawler who was severely lacerated over both eyes (plus gashed inside the mouth) when he pulled one of the biggest shockers in the 160-pound division since a bleeding and reeling Rocky Graziano turned it all around against Tony Zale in the sixth round in the middle war of their three-bout series 41 years ago.

There were only 21 seconds left in the third round when the unlikely end came thundering down on Hearns. Seconds earlier, Barkley himself seemed ticketed for a TKO defeat.

"Those cuts over both (of Barkley's) eyes were bad," said referee Richard Steele. "He was getting hurt and I was going to call for the ringside doctor between rounds. It's doubtful if they'd have ever let Barkley come out for the fourth round."

It was the sort of spectacular ending

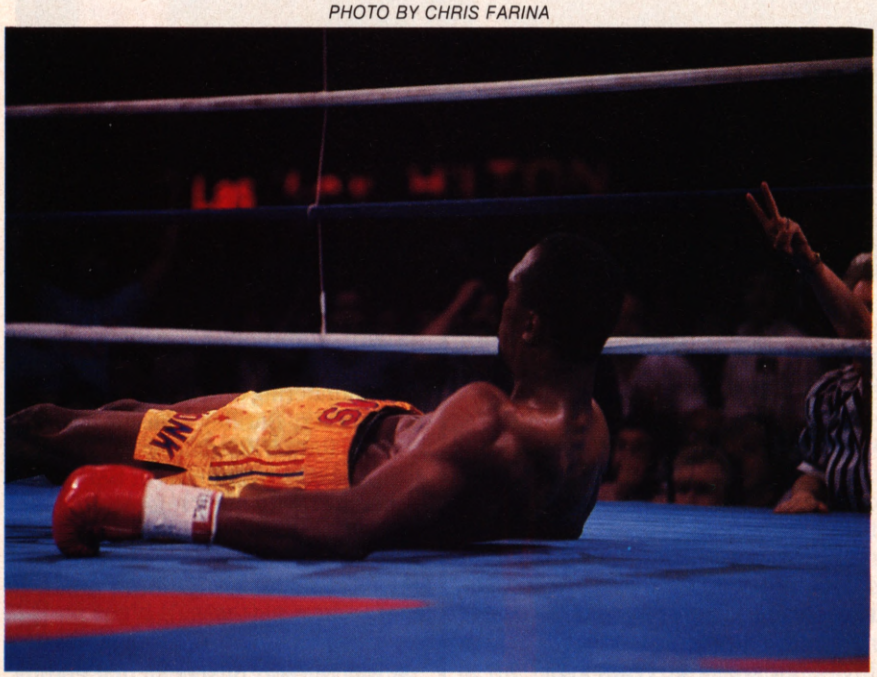
It's all over as referee Richard Steele and others struggle to prevent Hearns from falling from the ring following his second knockdown at the hands of Barkley.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

BARKLEY VS HEARNS

Hearns struggles to get up after Barkley floored him for the first time with a pair of rights to the head.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



which makes boxing the most unpredictable spectacle in sports. And Barkley is the kind of warrior who can restore one's faith in the human spirit — not to mention the art of matchmaking.

One of eight children, all reared by their mother, Georgia, on short money and long love, Barkley was born in the South Bronx's Patterson Project. He turned pro in December of 1982 only to fall TKO victim to Robbie Sims in just his ninth start. But he never gave up on himself and kept plugging away. A series of hard-fought victories finally earned Barkley a crack at the vacant WBA middleweight crown against Sumbu Kalambay, which was up for grabs following Sugar Ray Leonard's most recent retirement.

"The first time in Italy I was in good shape, but it was the wrong time," remembered Barkley of his 15-round decision loss to Kalambay. "I didn't have the promoters with me. They didn't care whether I won or lost. There was no American press or commission. To top it off, they threw three gallons of water in the ring before the fight. I had shoes on that were slipping all over the place and I had problems with my balance. Kalambay wasn't really hurting me. In fact, I was hurting him more even though I was having trouble getting leverage for power. I'd beat him easy in a street fight — either in the Bronx or Verona."

Undaunted, Barkley bounced back following his disappointing defeat to Kalambay. He looked so-so outpointing spoiler Sanderline Williams, but locked up the shot at Hearns by dismantling tarnished Michael Olajide with wicked left hooks. As challenger, Barkley earned his biggest payday of a six-year career: $350,000 to $1.5 million for Hearns.

The bout began pretty much as the oddsmakers figured. Using head feints, Hearns, 160, was cautious of Barkley's lunging attack and avoided damage while countering with left hooks to the ribs and several rights to the head.

Launching Round Two, both adversaries were careful for the first 30 seconds before Hearns ripped combinations to the head and Barkley, also 160, countered with a left-right-left. However, Hearns was dishing out the greater punishment. The challenger's eyes were acquiring lumps and before the round was over, Steele warned the

New Yorker to keep his punches up.

At the conclusion of the second, both of Barkley's eyes were sliced, prompting Steele to call Dr. Donald Romero of the Nevada State Athletic Commission to visit the challenger's corner to inspect the damage. Barkley was also bleeding from a cut inside his mouth and his handlers must have known the scheduled 12-rounder was in deep jeopardy of not seeing the end of Round Three.

Eddie Aliano showed his mettle as a cut man in mending Barkley's wounds and the fighter literally ran out of his corner at the bell to start the third. Hearns countered well, but Barkley charged again, this time taking Hearns across the ring into the ropes.

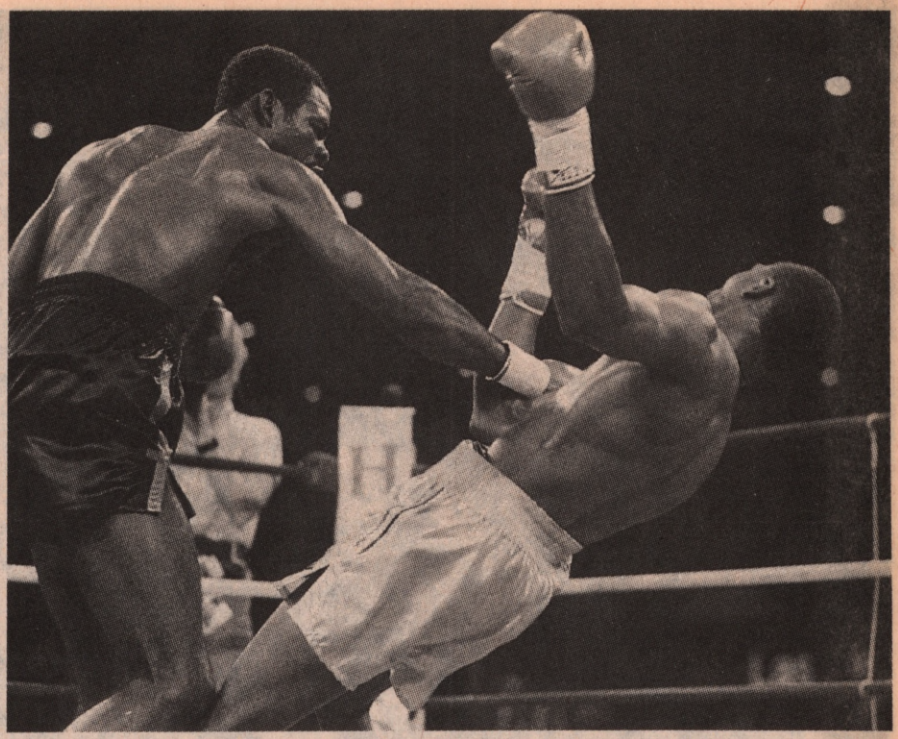
Hearns tagged his man with a left and two rights, knocking Barkley off balance, and quickly scored again with two more rights as Iran's best shots went awry. The "Hit Man" continued to pressure his bleeding adversary, landing a pair of right-left combinations and then a double hook to the body. Barkley took more punishment to the rib cage and grabbed his tormentor, seemingly hurt by the body blows.

Breaking free, Barkley renewed his unorthodox pursuit and caught Hearns with a leaping right which nailed the surprised champ flush on the button. Hearns stiffened and began to fall in slow motion. Before he could hit the canvas, Barkley stepped in and whacked him with another right, causing Hearns to unravel like a clothesline.

Hearns landed with his wide shoulders squarely on the mat, his left glove cocked upward while his right arm was limp under the sweeping hand of Steele tolling the count. Suddenly, as though someone had filled him with a potion of rejuvenation, Hearns bravely rolled his way to an erect position at the count of nine.

Once the tottering Hearns was upright, Barkley, coiled like a tiger, seized the moment. He quickly rushed in and knocked Hearns through the ropes with a closing left. The picture was stunningly reminiscent of the 14th round of Tommy's fight with Leonard, when Sugar Ray put him through the ropes with a 25-punch salvo.

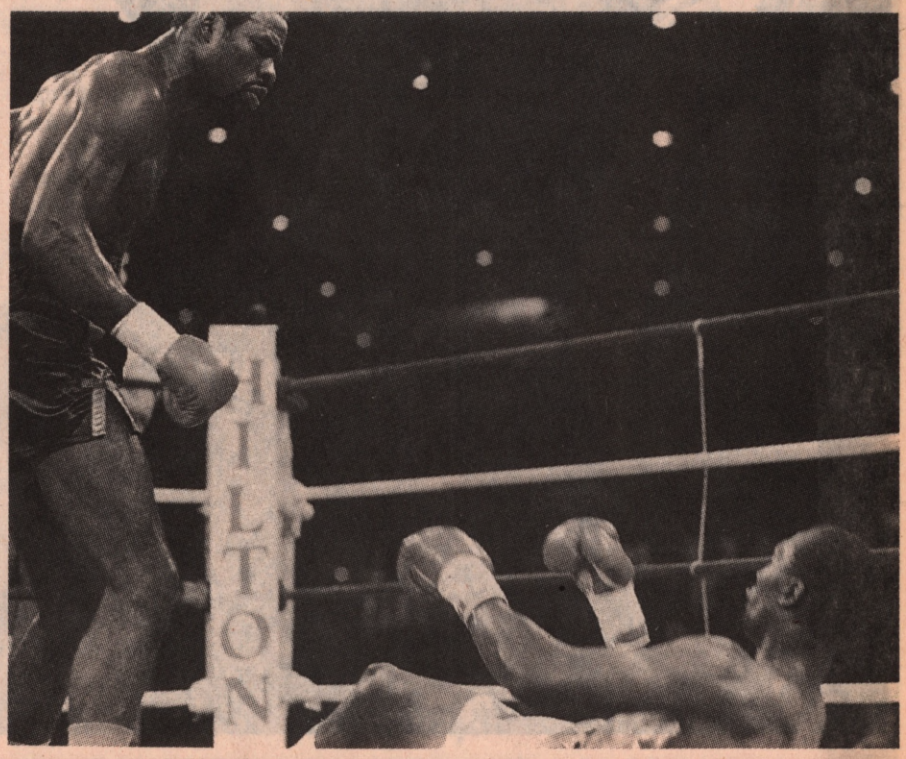
Nobody could believe what they had witnessed. When Hearns, who suffered his third loss against 45 victories (38 KOs), was finally able to leave the ring under his own power, the rudely de-

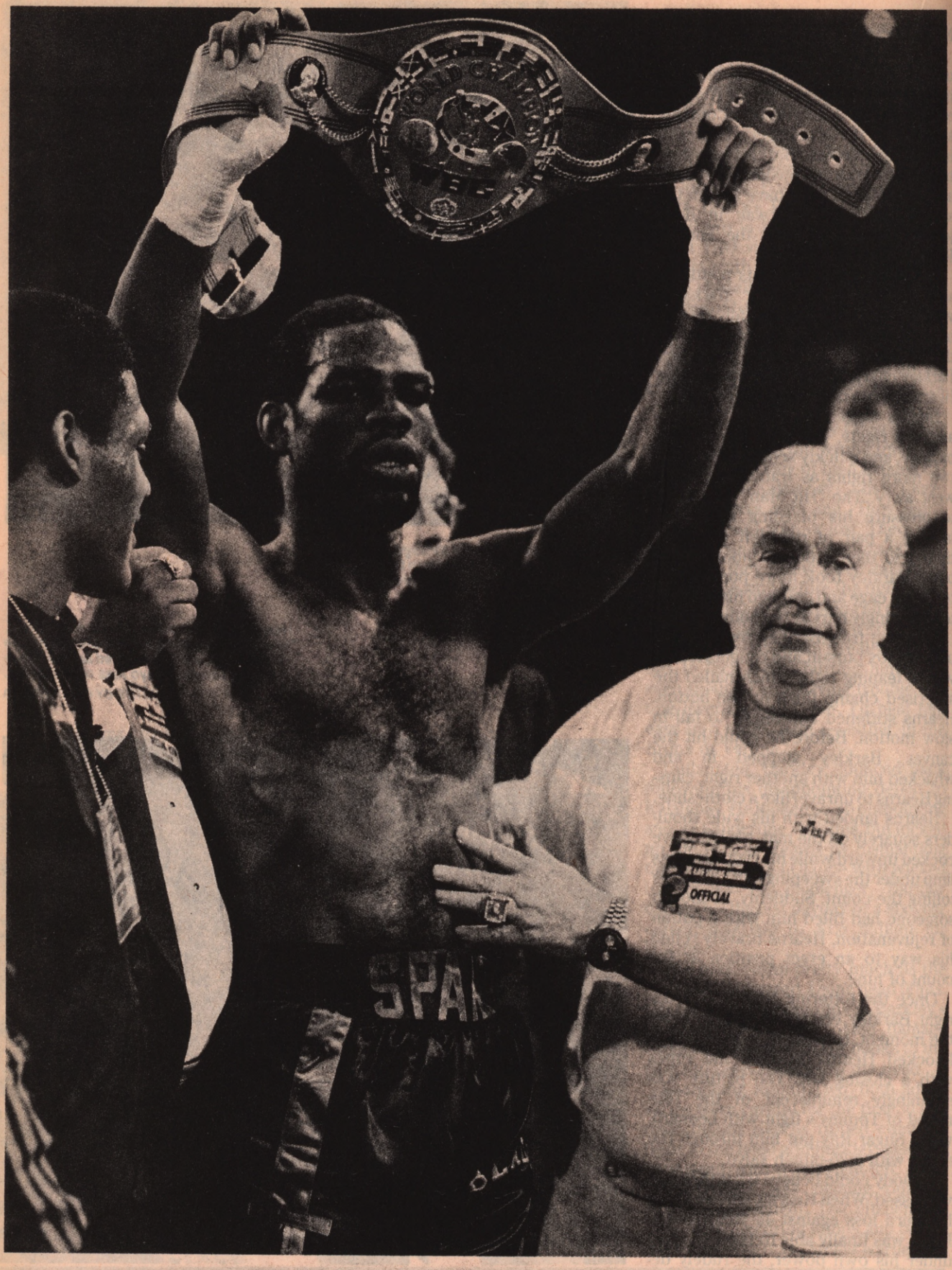


Underdog Barkley follows through with the second of two rights which began the end of Hearns' brief reign as WBC middleweight boss.

Hearns crashes to the boards with a thud. Though he managed to beat the count, the "Hit Man" was all but finished and soon suffered the third kayo loss of his career.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS FARINA





The winner and new WBC middleweight champ, Iran "The Blade" Barkley.
PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

throned WBC titleholder paused on the apron and smiled wanly. Then he shrugged his massive shoulders to the crowd, as if to ask, "What happened?"

"The punch? I didn't even see it," said Hearns. "I thought I was clear, but when I went down, I don't know what I thought. I know I wasn't in control. Now I know what the other guys feel like that I've been beating on.

"I felt good going into the fight. Now, of course, I feel disappointed. I'll have to think about my boxing career, but tonight Iran Barkley was the better man. I was surprised he took a helluva shot. This guy came to fight."

Ironically, Hearns was virtually unmarked while Barkley had patches over both eyes and ultimately needed 16 stitches.

"I'd definitely give Tommy a rematch anytime he wants," said the gracious winner, who upped his pro log to 25-4 with 16 KOs. "All he has to do is ask. He's worthy of a rematch. Thomas Hearns is a terrific, great champion. He deserves to be a legend. Hearns fought 'em all . . . even if he didn't beat 'em all."

Nobody was trying to force humor, but Hearns had the press chuckling when he reached over the dais and placed a long arm around the slouching Barkley.

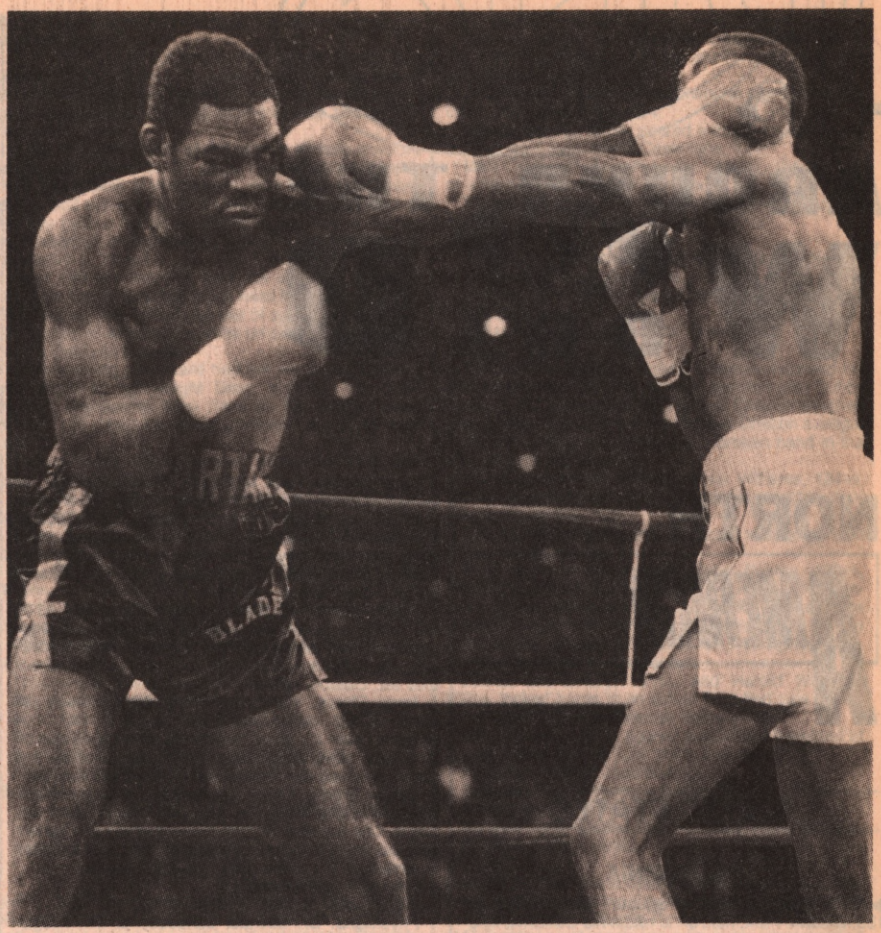
"Man, do you know what you did? You outhit the Hit Man tonight. How can that be?"

Barkley, a genuine tough guy in the ring, couldn't keep his emotions in check when the subject of his Bronx buddy Davey Moore was broached. Moore, the former WBA junior middleweight champion, had been killed three days earlier in a bizarre accident at his home in Holmdel, New Jersey. The 28-year-old ex-champ was crushed to death when an unoccupied car rolled down his driveway and ran over Moore who was trying to stop it.

"I've been thinking a lot about a very good friend, a brother I want to pay tribute to ... Davey Moore," said Barkley.

Suddenly, the dam burst and all the pent-up emotion he'd been smothering exploded in an anguished cry and he lowered his head on the back of his arms and sobbed unashamedly.

To take the tragedy one step farther, Barkley's mother wasn't at the Hilton on the night of her son's greatest triumph. Instead, she was on vigil at a Harlem hospital where another son, Alfred, is terminally ill with cancer.



Barkley (left) and Hearns trade jabs during one of the many exchanges in their exciting brawl. Barkley shrugged off plenty of punishment before turning things around in the dramatic third round.
PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Earlier in the day, she'd spent time with Iran's father, who is also gravely ill with cancer.

Even before he beat Hearns, Barkley told his mother to go house hunting.

"Mom told me she wanted a ranch type house with a big kitchen," said the engaging Barkley, a family man with a wife and two daughters. "She also said something about a bedroom filled with diamonds. The diamonds might have to wait a little while, so I hope she's only kidding."

Even if Mama Barkley isn't jesting about a bedroom full of ice, she may not have to wait too long. Bob Arum, Top Rank's mover and shaker who promoted the original, is anxious to bring "The Blade" and the "Hit Man" back to Las Vegas in the fall. Arum reportedly has a signed contract if he can get the WBC championship committee to waive its rule against immediate return matches involving dethroned champions.

Hearns, who celebrates his 30th birthday October 18, is anxious to face Barkley pronto rather than play an extended waiting game into retirement. Hearns already has the blessing of his guru, Manny Steward, who insisted Hearns "can effectively fight again because it wasn't a long, drawn-out beating (Barkley administered). One punch did all the damage. Tommy was like a guy pitching a shutout and then the other guy hits a home run. When you're in there with a home run hitter, that can happen."

Best of all for the Barkley clan, their reigning hero's new-found affluence at the box office should elevate him to the seven-figure earning level the next time out. And if the family starts talking about ice again . . . well, that's just what some fight people figure Barkley will lay on Hearns the second time around — the big chill! □

The RING AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

▶**RIVERSIDE**—Raincross Square—Rico Velasquez, 135, Baldwin Park, held on to retain his California lightweight title in his first defense by scoring a 12-round split decision over Robert Lewis, 134½, Los Angeles. Velasquez (19-5) almost let an early lead slip away when Lewis (9-12-3) put him down with a right in the 10th. Scoring: Rudy Jordan 115-113 Velasquez; Raul Caiz 115-113 Lewis; Lou Moret 115-112 Velasquez. Dr. James Jen-Kin, referee.

Levi Billups, 210, Quail Valley, overpowered Brett Hughes, 197, Las Vegas, in just 2:29 of the second of a scheduled eight. Billups (13-3) celebrated his 28th birthday by flooring Hughes (5-12-2) three times. Rudy Jordan, referee.

Stewart Baynes, 143½, Pasadena, unanimously outpunched Chris Alvarado, 143, Phoenix, over six always competitive crowd-pleasing rounds. Baynes (8-8) got off to his typical fast start, but was soon drawn into a war. Alvarado (13-4) correctly came up just short (58-57, 58-56 twice) on the judges' scoreboards. Lou Moret, referee.

David Kilgour, 175½, Canoga Park, pounded Jim Hardwick, 176¼, Phoenix, to defeat in 1:25 of the first of a scheduled six. Hardwich (1-7) was out on his feet when it was stopped by referee Raul Caiz, giving Kilgour his fifth straight win in six pro starts.

Kenny Comer, 140¼, Santa Ana, clubbed out Derek Cuttino, 139¼, Tucson, in 2:00 of the second of a scheduled six. Cuttino (7-26-3) protested, but he had been down and his legs would not support him when referee Moret stepped in. Comer, who had found a home in Riverside, improved to 6-2.

Physicians: Dr. Michael Deluca Dr. Roger Thill.
Announcer: Jimmy Lennon Jr.
Timekeeper: Willie Arreola.
Matchmaker: Jerry Niss.
Promoter: Sonny Stassi.
(5-18-88)

▶**SAN DIEGO**—El Cortez Hotel—**James Kinchen,** 173¾, took another step towards a world title with a near shutout unanimous points win over former Mexican light heavyweight champion Juan Hernandez, 173¾, Ensenada, 10. Hernandez (22-7) was down in the first. Hernandez scored with some wild right-handers, but Kinchen (44-4-2) was never seriously threatened. Raul Caiz, refereed.

Local favorite Todd McPhee, 178, San Diego, retained his unbeaten record with a hard-earned unanimous six-round victory over Rodger Mills, 174½, Tucson. McPhee (4-0-1) was rocked and down without a count in the first before rallying to win on heart and aggression. Scoring: Caiz 57-56: Frank Rustich 57-56; Hal Rickards 58-56. Tony Guitron, referee.

Randy Leaks, 190, Campo, made it four wins, all by KO, within a month with a second-round (1:24) stoppage of Dan Ramsey, 228½, Tucson. Ramsey (9-6) was down in both rounds from body shots in this scheduled six. Guitron, referee.

Jorge Rivera, 142½, San Diego, unanimously (all cards 57-56) outpointed Pedro Aguirre, 143, Los Angeles, over six good rounds. Aguirre (10-2) got off to a slow start, but Rivera (10-3) was wobbled and barely survived the final round. Pat Russell, referee.

Carlton Brooks, 148½, Los Angeles, scored a much-needed victory when he kayoed Rosario Querrero, 148½, Los Angeles, in 1:05 of the second of a scheduled six. Brooks (7-2-2) exploded off the ropes to flatten Guerrero (8-11) with a right. Russell, referee.

Promoter: Bob Dephilippis.
Matchmaker: Guillermo Mayen.
Physicians: Dr. Michael Lundseen & Dr. Vaughn Nixon.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Announcer: Fred Lewis.
(5-19-88)

▶**IRVINE**—Marriott Hotel—1984 Olympic Gold Medalist **Paul Gonzales**, 115¾, East Los Angeles, took his unbeaten record to eight with an exciting unanimous points win over Jorge Ortega, 115¾, Los Angeles. Gonzales pitched a shutout for seven rounds, but in the eighth Ortega (9-6-1) staggered Gonzales with a left hook to the jaw. Courageously he survived the next five minutes on shaky legs before outfighting his aggressive opponent in the final round. Gonzales triumphed clearly by scores of 98-92, 98-92 and 99-91, but a standing ovation and a shower of money tossed into the ring indicated how close the golden boy came to a shocking defeat. Lou Filippo, referee.

Tommy Perez, 153½, Santa Ana, kayoed Joe Walker, 152, Akron, in 1:29 of the fourth of a scheduled 10. Walker (14-2-1) was also down for nine in the third. Perez (18-3) did his damage with chopping rights to the head. Referee Chuck Hassett counted out Walker.

Larry Dupree, 175, Norco, impressively stopped Greg Holiday, 174, Hawaiian Gardens, in 2:13 of the third of a scheduled four. Pat Connolly, referee.

Jerry Rosenberg, 135, Hollywood, halted debuting Jesus Caro, 134, Los Angeles, who retired in his corner at the end of the third of a scheduled four. Rosenberg (7-6) floored the very game Caro in the first. Connolly, referee.

Rigo Felix, 127, Pomona, opened the show with a four-round split decision over Victor Flores, 126, Lennox. Felix (6-3) won when Flores (2-2-1) was correctly penalized a point for continued illegal use of the head. Connolly, referee.

Promoter: Don Fraser.
Matchmaker: John Cabbera.
Physicians: Dr. Michael Deluca & Dr. Mario Ficarola.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Announcer: Danny Valdivia.
(5-23-88)

▶**REDONDO BEACH**—Aviation Gym—Former amateur star Alex Garcia, 222½, San Fernando, scored his ninth consecutive pro victory when he kayoed Rodney Stockton, 193¼, Los Angeles, in 2:48 of the second of a scheduled eight-round main event. Garcia floored Stockton (3-5) twice with left hooks. Fritz Werner, referee.

The highlight of the evening was an action-packed eight between prospects Calvin Meeks, 142, Los Angeles, and Gerardo Lopez, 142, Bell, won unanimously (79-74, 78-74, 77-76) by the unbeaten (9-0) Meeks. Lopez (8-2) won only two rounds on *The Ring* scorecard. Vince Delgado, referee.

Once-promising Felix Adan, 152, Los Angeles, returned to the ring after a seven-year absence only to be knocked out by late substitute Miguel Hernandez, 160, Laredo, Texas, in 2:36 of the second of a scheduled six. A right put Felix (11-2-2) down for eight and he took referee Delgado's 10 count on his knees after a Hernandez (13-3) left floored him a second time in the round.

Also making an ill-advised and out of shape comeback after a seven-year layoff was one-time 10-round fighter George O'Mara, 230, Van Nuys, who was unanimously outscored (40-36, 39-37, 39-37) by unbeaten (3-0) Tyrone Armstrong, 228, Burbank, over four. It was an untidy maul, O'Mara (11-5) fighting in spurts, unable to sustain any offense. Pat Russell, referee.

Promoter: John Ellis.
Matchmaker: Obdulio Munoz.
Physicians: Dr. Michael Deluca & Dr. Bernhart Schwartz.
Timekeeper: John Liechty.
Announcer: Danny Valdivia.
(5-27-88)

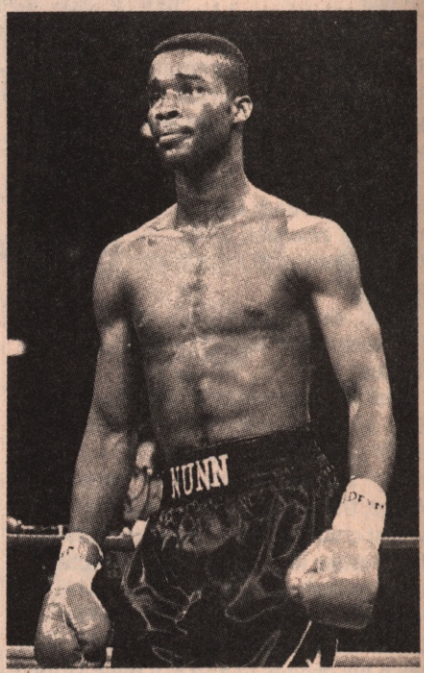


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Middleweight contender Michael Nunn warmed-up for shot at IBF middleweight titleholder Frank Tate with a second-round knockout over Ron Daniels in Reseda.

▶**RESEDA**—The Country Club-Top-ranked **Michael Nunn,** 160½, North Hollywood, prepped for his world title showdown with **Frank Tate** by quickly disposing of Ron Daniels, 161, Paso Robles, in 2:51 of the second of a scheduled 10. Nunn (30-0) came in slugging, hurting Daniels with a left hook, then blasting away with both hands until Daniels (11-7) fell down. John Thomas, referee.

Hugo Anguiano, 126, Los Angeles, won the vacant California featherweight title with a one-sided unanimous decision over Abe Gomez, 125, Pacoima, 12. The faster and smarter Anguiano (12-11-1) dominated, flooring Gomez (10-2) in the second. Anguiano, who had handed Gomez his first defeat one month earlier, won by scores of 119-108, 119-108 and 118-109. Rudy Jordan, referee.

Vince Dunfee, 140, Butte, rebounded from a shaky first round to knock out Manuel Davila, 140, Los Angeles, in 1:08 of the second of a scheduled six. Dun-

fee (10-5) had Davila (3-4) down twice in the second. Pat Connolly, referee.

Ruben Becerrada, 136, Venice, shut out Hernan Cortez, 135, Fresno, four. Becerrada (3-0) used height and reach advantages to floor Cortez (4-4-1) in the second and third. Kenny Davis, referee.

Stablemates Miguel Hernandez, 154, Laredo, and Jaime Montano, 154, Los Angeles, engaged in a four-round sparring session "won" by Hernandez. Scoring: Thomas 39-37, Montano, Jordan 39-38, Hernandez; Davis 39-37, Hernandez. Lou Filippo, referee.

Promoter: Daniel Goossen.
Matchmaker: Larry Goossen & Obdulio Munoz.
Physicians: Dr. Robert Karns.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.
(5-31-88)

▶**INGLEWOOD**—The Forum—Joey Olivo, 112, Pico Rivera, used his height and boxing ability to win the vacant NABF flyweight title with an uneventful 12-round points win over much shorter Fernando Varguez, 112, Merida. Ex-jr. flyweight champion Olivo (39-5) won by scores of 119-109; 118-110; 120-108; Varguez (28-4-1) winning only the seventh round. Dr. James Jen-Kin, referee.

Jesus Salud, 122, Nanakuli, fought well to win a 10-round split decision over hard-trying Yoo-Woon Park, 122, Seoul. Salud (24-2) advances to the semifinals of The Forum Super Bantamweight Tournament with this action-packed win over previously unbeaten Park (12-1-1). Scoring: Larry Rozadilla 97-95 Salud; Lou Moret 96-95 Park; Dick Young 97-93 Salud. Lou Filippo, referee.

Bobby Berna, 130, Las Vegas, scored a comeback victory when Armando Baeza, 132½, Norwalk, was retired by his corner with a closed left eye at the end of the sixth of a scheduled eight. Baeza (9-3-1) was ahead (58-56) on the card of judge Filippo and even on the other two, but Berna (29-5-1) was beginning to take the initiative. Rozadilla, referee.

Carlton Brooks, 153, Los Angeles, unanimously outpointed previously unbeaten Ali Sanchez, 155, Las Vegas, six, not losing a round. Brooks (8-2-2) floored Sanchez (9-1) in the first. Moret, referee.

Unbeaten prospect Randy Leaks, 195, was a lucky six-round majority winner over Dino Homsey, 195, Scottsdale. Leaks (5-0) was in big trouble in the fourth and fifth, but Homesey (3-3) let him off the hook. Scoring: Filippo 57-57; Moret 58-57; Rozadilla 59-56. Frank Rustich, referee.

Consistent loser James Williams, 164, Tucson, shocked Hector Jaiman, 163½, San Diego, in 2:42 of the first of a scheduled six. Jaiman (8-5-1) was down twice. Williams (4-17) claims training in Rosarito, Mexico, with world-rated James Kinchen has turned around his career. Tony Guitron, referee.

A scheduled six between Kid Melo, 119, Culiacan, and Daniel Cuamani, 118½, Los Angeles, ended disappointingly at the end of the first when Cuamani (12-8-2) could not continue because of a gash over his left eye. It was ruled a technical draw when one of the judges determined that the cut was caused by a butt. Melo (14-9-3) easily won the first. Guitron, referee.

Martin Morado, 145½, San Diego, shut out David Guerra, 143, San Diego, over six. Morado upped his mark to 16-12. Guerra's record fell to 8-18. Rustich, referee.

Unbeaten (2-0) Jesus Ramirez, 147, Mexicali, knocked out Miguel Morado, 148, San Diego, with a short right in 2:01 of the second of a scheduled four. Miguel (1-2-1) is exactly six years younger than brother Martin. Guitron, referee.

Promoter: Bob Dephilippis.
Matchmaker: Guillermo Mayen.
Physicians: Michael Lundeen & Mario Ficarola.
Timekeeper: Mike Millsap.
Announcer: Ernie Swanks.
(6-16-88)

DEAN LOHUIS

CONNECTICUT

▶**TRUMBULL** — Marriott Hotel — Canadian heavyweight **Tony Morrison** accepted a fight with **Leon Spinks** on two-days' notice, then proceeded to electrify a roaring crowd of 600 by stopping the former world champion in 33 seconds.

A left hook set up Spinks for a series of power-laden rights that landed on the vulnerable right temple, with a final left adding momentum to the fall of Spinks, who landed stiffly on his left side.

His fighter's instinct led Spinks to rise, but referee Matt Mullaney saw he was in no condition to continue, stopped his count and wrapped his arms around the stricken boxer.

The 198-pound substitute from Nova Scotia appeared in good shape as he spun around the ring before the slated 10-rounder started. Unceremoniously, he aggressively pursued the 206-pound Spinks and caught him cold.

John R. Burns, head of the state's athletic division, suspended Spinks for 30 days. Spinks' original opponent, Phil Brown of Wallingford, was ruled off the card after a third eye examination detected a damaged retina the day before the fight. Morrison, who lost a bid for the Canadian heavyweight title two years ago, raised his record to 17-4-1.

Over 250 laid out $50 each for seats in the Gold Ringside sections. Other seats were tabbed at $40 and $30, plus an uncounted number of spectators went for $20 ducats to witness the show on closed circuit in the hotel's Cahoots Lounge.

A rip-snorting undercard had the witnesses howling with approval, lightweight Sean Malone, 135, Wallingford, impressing once more as he stopped Jose Rivera, 129, Holyoke, Massachusetts, in just 49 seconds.

Tyrone Booze, 183½, Hartford, outpointed Kevin Denson, 185, Providence, in eight.

Julian Solis, 126, Hartford, outscored Tony Williams, 125, Bridgeport, in eight.

Brian Jackson, 206, Hartford, outpointed Don Halpin, 220, Lowell, Massachusetts, in four.

Ray Bright, 139½, New Haven, outscored James Gibson, 147, Wallingford, in four.

Tony Daley, 159, New Britain, decisioned Felix Campo, 156, Bridgeport, in four.

Officials: Matt Mullaney, Duke Lawson & Bob Muravnick.
Timekeeper: Sereno Geratano.
Physician: Steven M. Stein.
Announcer: Lou Dell.
Matchmaker: Bob Charian.
Promoter: Connecticut Sports Promotions.
Attendance: 599; Gross: $24,820.
(5-30-88)

JOSEPH CASSANO

FLORIDA

▶**FT. MYERS**—Comebacking **John "The Beast" Mugabi** continued his march toward another title shot with a third-round techical knockout of one Gonzalo Montes. But Mugabi's victory was not without at least one anxious moment, that coming in the first round when a Montes left caused Mugabi's knees to buckle. Montes was unable to capitalize on the opportunity, and Mugabi came on strong in the third, landing 16 unanswered punches before the fight was stopped at the 2:59 mark. Mugabi, 160, upped his record to 29-2 (29), while Montes, who weighed 159, dropped to 28-11. Mugabi is slated to see action again July 7 in Tampa.

On the undercard **Tracy Harris Patterson** ran his record to 24-1 with a technical knockout of "Jockey" Jay James at 1:32 of the third round. Patterson, 131¾, had James on the canvas a total of five times in the abbreviated 10-rounder. James, 128½, fell to 12-5.

This six-bout card also featured a heavyweight contest between veteran **Jimmy Young** and Tim Anderson. Anderson, who at 29 is 10 years Young's junior, got the nod in a 10-round split decision. But Anderson did not emerge unscathed, sustaining a cut over his eye. Anderson improved to 28-6-1: Young, 36-15-3. Young weighed 216½ to Anderson's 199.

Johnny Guittares, 150¾, knocked out Bernard Matthews, 147¾, at 1:29 of the second round. It was scheduled for 10. Guittares is 13-2-1; Matthews, 9-3.

Heavyweight Art Terry knocked out Ronald Torres at 2:26 of the second round in a scheduled eight-rounder. Terry, 244, is 13-5-1. Torres, who at 196½ conceded nearly 50 pounds to his opponent, fell to 8-2.

Francisco Arreola went to 11-2-1 with a knockout of Joe Weber, 9-5, at 2:08 of the third. It was scheduled for eight.

Promoter: Challenger Promotions.
Referees: Mike Boggs & Brian Garry.
Timekeeper: dick Howroyd.
Judges: Derrell Brown, Wilson Robinson & Joe Thorton.
Physicians: Rick Meade and G.S. Guggino.
(6-4-88)

▶**HIALEAH**—A pair of bantamweights highlighted a six-bout card in this South Florida city. But neither of the headliners was in the ring very long as Victor Cruz blasted out Jorge Acosta in the first round of a scheduled 10-rounder. Cruz, who weighed 113, improved to 10-1. Acosta, 116, is 10-3.

Freddie Seville, 127, defeated David Blake, 128½, via a technical knockout in the fourth round of a bout scheduled for eight.

Ali Sanchez, 156, took a unanimous eight-round decision over Mike Sapp, 154.

Alberto Reyes, 128¼, scored a fourth-round technical knockout over Jaime Castellano, 124.

Mike Cruz, 127, defeated John Wesley, 131, by way of a third-round technical knockout.

Ricardo Rivero, 121, was awarded a unanimous decision over Carlos Lenin Noguera, 120½.

Promoter: Carlos Baharona.
Referees: Billy Yoham, Juan Arias & Bernie Soto.
Timekeeper: Sam Guralnick.
Judges: John Rupert, Mark Conn, Vivian Berman & Henry Berman.
Physicians: C. Denis and W. Berke.
(6-3-88)

▶**ORLANDO**—Veteran **Bobby Chacon** recorded his 60th career win with a unanimous decision over Bobby Jones in 10 rounds. The 36-year-old Chacon weighed 134; Jones, 135¼. The victory upped Chacon's ledger to 60-8-1. Jones, who sustained a broken hand in the fight, dropped to 20-11-1.

In a featherweight contest, Jessie Williams, 124½, scored an eight-round unanimous decision victory over Stevie Whetstone, 122.

The remainder of the five-bout card was comprised of four-round affairs.

In a battle of lightweights, John Fontey, 133¼, notched a majority decision win over Harlan Bo Hammac, 134¾. Although Fontey won the fight, he was ordered suspended from further competition by the state athletic commission until he receives a physician's approval because of a facial cut.

James Lee Busby, 151½, and Harold Williams, 152¾, locked horns in an action fight that saw Busby come away with a unanimous decision win.

Billy Wooten, 138½, scored a technical knockout of James Cobb, 143, at 2:25 of the first round.

Promoter: World Class Boxing.
Referees: Frank Santore & Mike Boggs.
Timekeeper: Dick Howroyd.
Judges: Tony Palermo, Dan Raicevich & Joe Thorton.
Physician: Mark Straub.
(6-2-88)

▶**NOTES:** The Florida State Athletic Commission has asked the World Boxing Council to strip junior bantamweight champion **Gilberto Roman** of his title because of Roman's use of marijuana prior to his winning effort against **Sugar Baby Rojas** April 8.

The recommendation was made in a June 15 letter from commission Executive Director Don Hazelton to WBC President **Jose Sulaiman**. The state commission has suspended Roman from fighting in Florida for six months. The suspension runs from May 31, when the action was unanimously approved, to November 30. There is no appeal available to Roman, according to Hazelton.

Roman regained the title via a unanimous decision over Rojas, but two separate chemical tests revealed the presence of "a small-to-medium amount" of marijuana in his system, Hazelton said. When confronted with the results, Roman admitted to WBC officials that he had used marijuana seven to 14 days prior to the title fight.

After the suspension ends, Roman will not be allowed to fight again in Florida until he passes two drug tests; one 30 days prior to, and another immediately preceding, any scheduled bout there.

KEN KNOX

INDIANA

▶**GARY**—Genesis Center—In the scheduled 10-round main go, big Mike Evans, 256, Chicago Heights, TKO'd defensive Dave Jaco, 222, Sarasota, Florida, at 2:46 of Round Eight.

Evans was winning the bout easily against his elusive opponent when he nailed Jaco with a vicious right to end the contest.

Norberto Bueno, 158¾, Chicago, stopped Virgil Maris, 162, Milwaukee, with a body shot at 1:37 of the second stanza after Maris had won the first round.

J.C. Camill, 148¾, Chicago, won a six-round decision over journeyman Walter Cowan, 145½, Milwaukee.

Kimmuel Odum, 255, Gary, TKO'd 215-pound **Mike Tyson** at 2:10 of the third round. Incidently, this is the Mike Tyson from Davenport, Iowa.

Efrin Nieves, 143, Milwaukee, stopped Christopher Patterson, 146, Chicago, by TKO at 2:59 of the second.

Charles O'Neal, 171½, Chicago, and Ben Judah,

168¼, Chicago, fought to a four-round draw.
Promoter: Leon Wolek.
Matchmaker: John Taylor.
Referees: Pete Podgorski & Al Preslinger.
Judges: John Wilson, Don Leek & Gary Merritt.
Timekeepers: Virgil Strauss & Bill West.
Attendance: 200 (est.).
(5-21-88)

GARY L. MERRITT

KENTUCKY

▶**LOUISVILLE**—Fairgrounds—Unbeaten **Darrin Van Horn**, 157, Lexington, ended a spectacular, but brief bout with Mexico's Angel Albrado, 157, stopping the visitor in the third round of a scheduled 10.

In another 10, Ashland's Paul McPeek, 165, proved too quick for Clarksville, Indiana's Danny Thomas, 160, winning by unanimous decision.

Eric Whitfield, 130, Louisville, won the state junior lightweight title with a majority, eight-round decision over Lexington's Bryan Brown, also 130. Whitfield won two cards, 79-75 and 79-77, while the third score was 77-77.

Louisville's Bradley Williams, 142, swept four rounds from Jackson, Tennessee's Jackie Bedwell, 144, winning by scores of 40-33 (twice) and 40-34.

Shepardsville's Tim Tipton, 133, also won a four-round, unanimous decision, beating Louisville's James Ruff, 130.

Louisville's Gary Steiger, 189, swept Nashville's Stan Holt in another four-rounder, winning scores of 40-37, 39-36 and 40-36.

Promoter: Eskridge Enterprises.
Referees: Kampf & Anderson.
Timekeeper: Peyton.
Judges: Means, Knopf, Griffin & Kerns.
Physician: Rouben.
Announcer: Tong.
(5-5-88)

MAINE

▶**LEWISTON**—Memorial Armory—Local favorite Joey Gamache, 135, was impressive in his first trip over the eight-round distance as he captured a shutout decision over veteran Benny Marquez, 139, Chicago.

Marquez, who fell to 22-21-2 with nine KOs, rarely threw a punch, satisfying himself with an odd display of bobbing and weaving, shucking and jiving, that tested the patience of his 22-year-old opponent. Gamache, who ran his record to 9-0 with five KOs, kept his cool, stalking Marquez behind a busy left jab.

The 5-6 Gamache displayed fast hands and stiff punching, particularly with the left hook and the right uppercut. Those two punches accounted for the bout's lone knockdown as the 31-year-old Marquez bent over from a left hook to the ribs and Gamache put him down with a right uppercut to the chops in the sixth round.

All three judges, Donald Borgenson, James Dougherty and Dennis Richards, scored 80-71 for the winner.

The 10-round main event saw Jackson, Tennessee's **Jackie Beard**, 134, win a unanimous verdict over Chicago's Margarito Marquez, 132.

Marquez, who lost a 12-round decision to Beard for the NABF in 1983, satisfied himself with clutching and grabbing his way to a repeat loss that dropped his record to 21-9-1 with 10 KOs.

Dougherty scored 96-94 and Richards 98-96 for Beard, while Borgenson turned in a 100-98 tally, meaning he gave Beard two rounds and scored eight even! The 26-year-old Beard improved to 33-3 with 20 knockouts.

Announcer: Bill Green.
TV: USA.
Attendance: 2,500 (est.).
(6-9-88)

MARYLAND

▶**BALTIMORE**—Teamsters Local 557 Hall—After a two-month hiatus, professional boxing returned to the Baltimore area and was welcomed with open arms by all in attendance. The one thing that definitely adds to the sport which I consider the epitome of competition is atmosphere and the Teamsters Hall in Baltimore provided just that. The close proximity to the ring, cheering fans, hot dogs, beer, and yes, even the smoke produces an environment unparalleled by any other professional sporting event.

The main event had 10th-ranked USBA middleweight **Ronnie "The Dragon" Essett** go the distance in an eight-round bout. Coming off an impressive showing last January in Atlantic City, boxing Doug DeWitt to a draw, and a fourth-round KO of Akim Zeroual, Paris, in Paris, France in April, Essett, 162, Baltimore, Md., 15-2-1 10 KOs, won a unanimous decision over Dwight "The Bounty" Hunter, 160, Kannapolis, NC, reported to be 9-3. It was somewhat of a listless performance for Essett that probably didn't do much to improve his ranking other than adding another victory to the win column.

Coming out strong in the first, Essett landed hard rights throughout the round, knocking Hunter's mouthpiece out along the way. More of the same came in the second. However, Essett was unable to put his opponent away even though he was in a position to do so. The remainder of the match saw both fighters tiring, losing the sting out of their punches and leaning on each other in the middle of the ring, resting while exchanging brawling but unpowerful punches. The constant inside fighting from the third round on was too one dimensional for Essett. Against DeWitt, he was able to step back and get outside at the urging of his former trainer Ben Getty.

Essett has since parted company with Getty and had been training on his own. By his own admittance, lack of sparring helped to detract from his performance. When asked if he was frustrated by not being able to put Hunter away in the early rounds, Essett responded, "I've been fighting long enough to know I can't get frustrated in the ring." Ronnie is now headed to the Chicago area to train and continue his pursuit of a title shot. Ref: Terry Moore. Judges Ray Klingmeyer, Larry Barrett and Milton Greene each had the scoring 80-71.

Billy Jasnowski, 124, Temple Hills, Md. upped his record to 2-0 on a TKO at 1:13 of the second round over David Scott, 120½, Baltimore. Md. in a scheduled four. The 27-year-old Jasnowski waited for his opponent to come in, then countered with three left-right combinations that put Scott face down on the canvas. Seconds later, after Scott got up, the same thing happened and referee Greene stopped the bout.

Kertis Mingo, 164½, Charlotte, NC, made his pro debut a successful one by winning on a TKO at coincidently the same time as the Jasnowski bout, 1:13 of the second round of a scheduled four. Mingo's left hand was too much for Johnny Keys, 164½, Baltimore, Md. Even though there were no knockdowns, Keys offered no defense as Mingo backed him into the corner at which time referee Klingmeyer wisely stopped the fight.

The flamboyant, unorthodox Donnie Parker, 127½, Baltimore Md., lost a split decision to Leroy "Sugar" Brooks, 126½, Palmer Park, Md., in a six-round affair. Parker, who sometimes throws his punches from as far out as centerfield, at one point comically hit the canvas from a missed blow. Klingmeyer had it 59-57 Brooks, Moore 58-56 Parker, and Greene 60-56 Brooks. Ref: Barrett.

Steve "Littlerock" Mistretta, 136½, Palmerton, Pa., made quick work of Keith Grimes, 134, Baltimore Md., by knocking Grimes out at 2:37 of the first round in a scheduled six. Grimes had been knocked down earlier in the round by a left-hook, right-hand combination and was finally put away by a straight right hand. Ref: Klingmeyer.

George Greenhow, 146, Washington, DC, 2-1, knocked out Mike Williams, 154, Baltimore Md., 0-2, at 1:30 of the first round of a scheduled four.

Ref: Greene
Promoter: Baltimore Professional Bouts, Inc.
Matchmaker: Johnny Bos.
Announcer: Tony Baldoni.
Timekeeper: Izzy Bach.
Attendance: 543.
(6-14-88)

FRED BLUMSTEIN

MASSACHUSETTS

▶**BOSTON**—Park Plaza Hotel—It was a night when the Celtics were edging the Detroit Pistons in double overtime in a playoff game at the Boston Garden, while local tv carried the Bruins being eliminated from the Stanley Cup Finals in Edmonton. The worst beating, however, may have been the one promoter Al Valenti took at the gate as only 138 fans bypassed the other choices to attend the boxing card at the Park Plaza.

No one can accuse the local fighters on this card of benefitting from any hometown advantage. Five boxers from Brockton's Petronelli Brothers' Gym were showcased, but just two came away with victories.

In the main event, Irish middleweight champion Steve Collins, 162, Dorchester, returned to action with an impressive shutout decision over game Lester Yarborough, 157, Jackson, TN. All three judges gave Collins perfect 100-90 scores as he raised his record to 9-0. Yarborough falls to 8-4.

Collins pressed forward from the start and Yarborough never had enough to slow his progress. Yarborough threw his punches from unorthodox angles, with a wide, looping half-hook, half-uppercut his most prevalent weapon. Collins avoided most of these blows and kept charging ahead, smothering any semblance of an offense his foe tried to muster. A left uppercut from Collins stunned Yarborough late in the second round, capping off a one-sided bombardment that earned the Irish boxer a 10-8 nod on our card.

Yarborough recovered well though and began counterpunching in the third frame, but Collins' two-fisted attack continued to roll over him. Collins started working the body in the sixth and Yarborough began holding at every chance. The body attack appeared to be draining Yarborough and Collins seemed on the verge of a knockout in the ninth, but Yarborough hung on till the end, although by this time his best maneuver had become the headlock clinch. With the 10-8 second round, *The Ring* scored it 100-89 for Collins.

Yarborough had been a late sub, taking the bout on about three days' notice, but Collins was impressed.

"He was unpredictable — punching from all angles, and he had a good chin and kept coming back," Collins said. "I was geared up for another guy and he was totally different. I wanted the knockout, and I was trying too hard for it from the fourth round on, but I needed this experience."

A heavyweight semifinal slated for six saw Brooklyn bomber Alex Stewart, 223, make short work of Oklahoma City's Aaron Brown, 195. Stewart, patient and methodical, shrugged off an early Brown rush and unloaded precise combinations that floored Brown twice. When another left-right to the temple sent Brown sagging into the ropes, ref Dick Flaherty called it off at 2:05 of Round One. Stewart improves to 14-0.

Another six-rounder matched West Bridgewater's Mike Cappiello, 130, with Albany's Kevin Marston, 131, in a barn-burner. Such rapid-paced brawls have become a Cappiello trademark, but this time Marston's accuracy and power were a bit more effective. Ref Doug Sheerin saw it 59-56 Cappiello, but judges Barbara Roach (60-56) and Vincent Lee (58-56) made it a Marston split decision win. *The Ring* scored it 58-57 Marston. Local favorite Cappiello drops to 3-1.

Light heavyweight Parmeson Iffel, 185, Raynham, was the only Petronelli-trained winner besides Collins. Iffel, dubbed "The Tower" both for his height and his name, used that height and reach to totally control and break down Albany's Willie "Mad Dog" Reynolds. Reynolds couldn't answer the bell for Round Three of the scheduled six and Iffel goes to 4-0.

Former New England welterweight champ Fernando Fernandez came back from a four-year retirement against Troy, NY's Mike Caminiti, 162. At 165 lbs., Fernandez faded halfway through his four-rounder and had to settle for a draw.

In the opening four, Petronelli amateur whiz Mike Culbert, 151, Holbrook, was surprised by a short right from Hartford's Tony Rorie, 148, and flattened in the second round. Culbert got back up and fought well to the bout's conclusion, but that knockdown cost him the split decision. Two judges saw it as 39-37, as did *The Ring*, for Rorie, while the third had it 39-38 Culbert, who falls to 2-1.

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Trainer Goody Petronelli was none too pleased with the close decisions that had gone against his men.

"I thought Fernando took every round," he said later. "The Cappiello fight was a good, tough one, and maybe a draw there would've been good, so we can't complain too much. But Mike Culbert really got jobbed — he won three of the four rounds."

Referees: Richard Flaherty & Doug Sheerin.
Judges: Barbara Roach & Vincent Lee.
Timer: John Fitzgerald.
Physician: Rene Barrette.
Promoters: Goodwin A.C. & Al Valenti.
Attendance: 138.
Gross: $2,070.

(5-26-88)

▶**REVERE**—Fasad's—Promoter John Gagliardi's first card in a couple years probably reminded him of all the problems that inspired his hiatus. His original headliner, onetime lightweight contender **Ken Bogner,** bowed out with the flu three days before the show. The eventual lineup featured just five of the fighters out of the 14 listed on the fight posters. Late foulups and no-shows reduced the seven-bout program to three. Then, on the night of the card, workmen discovered the ropes that came with the ancient ring Gagliardi had acquired from the old Boston Arena didn't quite fit. As fans streamed into the nightclub ballroom, they saw workmen feverishly extending the ropes with nylon boat-ropes, securing the connections with metal clamps and then covering the clamps with towels and duct tape. The program got underway 45 minutes late, but the crowd was good-natured.

The abbreviated show turned out to be so entertaining that all the problems seemed secondary and Gagliardi hasn't jumped off any bridges yet, and may in fact persevere.

John Rafuse of nearby Malden stepped into the main event on two-day's notice and came away with a last-round TKO win over Norwalk, Connecticut's Luis "Junior" Rodriguez. Rafuse, 141, had a June 23rd date with Vinny Burgese in Atlantic City coming up with the USBA title at stake, so he couldn't risk a loss or a cut here. The day of the bout he ran afoul of some chowder and nearly withdrew completely.

"I didn't know the chowder had scallops in it, and I'm allergic to them," Rafuse said later. "I was sick all day."

Rafuse looked healthy enough when the bell rang, manhandling young Rodriguez from start to finish. Rafuse, with a vast edge in experience, took advantage of his foe's tentative jabbing and rushed in on him continually with a solid body attack. Rodriguez, also 141, looked best in the fifth round when his defense frustrated Rafuse somewhat, although he never produced much offense. Rafuse wore the youngster down in the sixth and seventh, walking through his left and battering the ribs of Rodriguez. The fearsome Rafuse attack continued into the eighth, and referee Bill Connelly gave Rodgriguez a standing-eight count within the first minute. The Rafuse onslaught didn't let up, and when he mixed in a few shots to the head, Rodriguez was finished. Connelly called a halt at 2:20, just 40 seconds from the final bell, but there were no complaints.

Rafuse improves to 19-7 with six KOs with two knockout wins in a row. Rodriguez fell to 8-4.

"I figured I'd work the body and then go upstairs," Rafuse explained later. "But I couldn't believe that kid was still there. I waited a little bit too much in the early rounds, but I wanted to pace myself for the eight rounds because I'd been sick. That kid came to fight, and he'd have beaten Bogner."

Most onlookers, including *The Ring,* figured Rafuse was sitting on a shutout anyway, but only one judge agreed. The other two official cards showed only a three-point edge for Rafuse after seven frames.

"Maybe it's because I fight so much in Atlantic City — they don't consider me a local fighter," Rafuse mused.

A semifinal eight-rounder matched two heavyweights who had fought twice previously. Syracuse native Lou Vallar, 203, had won a pair of decisions over Holyoke's Juan Quintana, 214, but a right hand injury had sidelined him for the past year. Vallar was hesitant to throw the right early, but when he began unloading it Quintana couldn't stand up to it, succumbing by TKO at 2:48 of the fifth. Quintana fights with a crab-like style, firing wide left hooks and home run overhand rights. His best weapon this night was the low blow as he earned five citations from ref Ed Fitzgerald. After Vallar scored a brief knockdown in the first, Quintana came back with a body attack that strayed low enough to earn a point-deduction in the second. A couple more such infractions in the third so enraged Vallar that he tackled Quintana along the ropes as the bell rang and handlers had to aid Fitzgerald in separating the boxers. Fitzgerald loudly warned Quintana between rounds that another such groin shot would mean disqualification.

Vallar pasted Quintana throughout the fourth for a solid 10-8 edge. A Quintana low blow in the fifth was ignored by Fitzgerald as the crowd, which had overheard the previous ultimatum, went wild. Unfortunately for Quintana, Vallar went wild too, and a series of right crosses left Quintana helpless on the ropes. The 27-year-old Vallar improved to 18-4 with his 12th KO.

The opening four-rounder saw Norwalk, Connecticut's Frank Harris, 146, outbox Santiago Hermida, 145, Worcester, for a unanimous decision win. Harris is 1-1 in the pro ranks.

Promoter: Celebrity Boxing Club/John Gagliardi.
Referees: Bill Connelly & Ed Fitzgerald.
Judges: Bob McCoy & Robert Costello.
Timer: Mauro Consiglio.
Physician: Francis Wixted.
Attendance: 237; $4,740.

(5-31-88)

JAY N. MILLER

MICHIGAN

▶**SAGINAW**—Wendler Arena—Hot lightweight prospect Billy Young took a six-round TKO over Scotty Phillips of Gretna, Louisiana, in the scheduled 10-round main event.

Young, who downed Philips in the second and fifth, improved his record to 23-0-1 while Phillips dropped to 9-10.

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Bay City's Darryl Spain lost a split decision to James "Hooks" Williamson, the Missouri middleweight champion, in an eight-rounder. The hapless Spain is 12-13, while Williamson improved to 6-2.

Arthur Jimmerson, 1983 Golden Gloves national champ, knocked down Danny Thomas in the third round en route to taking a decision that helped the light heavy improve to 8-2.

Heavyweight John L. Sullivan scored a second-round knockout over Charley Harvey to lift his mark to 7-0.

Bay City lightweight Troy Davis won by TKO over James Cooper, who didn't answer the bell for the fifth, then proceeded to collapse in the ring and had to be carried out. He recovered after a visit to the hospital and went back to St. Louis with bruises and a 5-3 record as Davis improved to 21-3, according to local estimates.

Promoter: Art Dore.

(5-19-88)

▶**ALLEN PARK**—Civic Arena—Farmington light heavyweight Vince "Blue Thunder" Hopper notched a TKO win at 1:21 of the third in a scheduled 10 over Evansville, Indiana's John Moore to up his record to 14-3-2.

Moore, who fell to 8-4, threw himself out of the ring in the second round as a result of his wild attacking style.

Local featherweight hero Fred "The Tank" Adams got a little harder and meaner as he went to 16-1-1 with a TKO at 1:49 of the fifth over Mario Rivera of Minneapolis. Rivera, 8-6, went down from gut shots and hooks in the first, second, twice in the third and twice more in the fifth of the scheduled 10.

Memphis, Tennessee lightweight Rob Williamson, 4-2, and Westland's Jeff "Sweet Ice" Styers, 4-0, took their fourth-rounder the distance with "Sweet Ice," who appeared about five inches taller than Williamson, giving Williamson a boxing lesson to win a unanimous decision.

Welterweight Kahlil "The Sheik" Kahlil made his pro debut in front of many supportive local fans as he scored a TKO in just 2:20 over southpaw Alfred Jeanese of Lake Charles, Louisiana, who fell to 2-2.

Local karate dojo-meister Kelly Croy climbed into his K-mart bathing trunks to whack out a TKO win at 2:28 of the fifth over Mike Meux of Memphis, Tennessee, in their scheduled middleweight six. Croy is at least 39 years old.

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Welterweights Darrin "Mongoose" Morris, Detroit, and Joe Conrad, New Orleans, barely warmed up when the Mongoose scored a KO at 2:39 to go 6-0-1. Conrad is 2-2.

Detroit welterweight Ellery "E.T." Thomas upped his record to 9-0 with a decision over Charles Rice of Lake Charles, Louisiana. Rice provide game opposition, but fell to 4-6.

Promoter: ABC Promotions Inc.

(5-21-88)

▶**STERLING HEIGHTS**—Premier Center—The regularly scheduled monthly show featured a WBC Continental Americas super bantamweight title defense by **Steve "Bluesman" McCrory** of Detroit.

McCrory upped his record to 23-2-1 with a unanimous, 12-round decision over game southpaw Jose Ramirez, Eagle Pass, Texas, who lost for the second time against 18 wins.

Stablemate **Renaldo "Little Red" Carter,** Detroit, didn't want McCrory to have to wait long for the main event to take place, so he knocked out Mario Lozano of El Paso at 2:34 of the fourth of their scheduled 10-round bantamweight clash. Carter is 18-0, Lozano, 24-6.

If the timekeeper and referee had been on top of things, **Hurley "Dr. Prescription" Snead** may have had a record KO time. Early Hurley led off the first with a two-punch combo that flat-out cold-cocked Omar Garcia of Los Angeles. *The Ring's* stopwatch said Garcia went down two seconds from the opening bell, but Snead, 36-2, must be content with an 18-second stoppage. The bewildered and stunned Garcia headed back west 14-8.

In the 10-round Michigan state heavyweight championship contest, Eric "The Whip" Curry went to 18-2 with a decision over Kalamazoo's Curtis Isaac, who slipped to 12-6. Curry is from Detroit.

Darrin "Mongoose" Morris, a winner just four days previous, won a unanimous, six-round decision over El Paso's Juan Nunez, 12-4, to stay unbeaten at 7-0-1 at welterweight.

Promoter: ABC Promotions Inc.

(5-25-88)

▶**DETROIT**—Cobo Arena—The headliner of the Kronk monthly show evinced quality and craftmanship beyond the parameters of the Michigan middleweight championship that was at stake as veteran **Dwight Davidson** went to the crossroads one more time in his long career.

This time, Davidson walked away with the belt as he took a unanimous, 10-round decision over **Phillip Morefield** of Warren.

Davidson, 42-4, knew this was the turning point and called on all his experience and skill as the fans of both fighters rocked the arena. The game Morefield fell to 18-2-1.

Ann Arbor middleweight Mike Johnson has found new aggressiveness now that he's training at the Kronk gym and displayed punching power not many thought he had as he went 15-1-1 with a profound KO over Donald Payne in just 1:41. Payne, from Boulder, Colorado, is 11-3.

Lanky middleweight Andre Thibodeaux, Detroit, wasn't going to be left out as he TKO'd Toronto's Dale Moreland in just 59 seconds with a terrific left hook to improve to 4-1.

Pontiac featherweight hopeful Emanuel Rosario went 2-0 with a TKO at 1:34 of the third against Chicago's Sherman Dixon, who fell to 1-4. Dixon, who stands less than five feet, had better start thinking about the flyweight division.

Heavyweight karate/kickboxing champ Tracy Thomas scored a TKO over a whale of a guy in Jim Herter, who fell to 1-2 at 2:02 of the second round in this awful display. The bulbous Herter stumbled into crashing rights that chewed up his nose and forehead until he dropped like a sack of potatoes in this last-minute replacement match. Thomas is 4-1. Herter, at around 5-10, 245, does not belong in situations that could render him permanent damage. Let's clean up our act here, boys!

Southpaw Gregg Carter, Detroit, kept his unblemished record going with a unanimous, four-round decision over Toronto's Pat Deleslie, who is 0-1-1. The local welter is 2-0.

The appreciative 7,000 guests saw a spirited opening as Detroit's Antonio Lightfoot disappointed his fans, but escaped major damage in his pro bow against Scott DePew, 3-0, took his time and won the nod from two judges, while the third carded a draw.

Promoter: Ringside Productions Inc.

(5-28-88)

TOM PARUSZKIEWICZ

NEW JERSEY

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Resorts International—Unpredictable **Bert Cooper** provided fans with another shocker, but at his own expense. Cooper, 188¼, Phila., was resoundingly upset at the hands (and feet) of **Everett "Bigfoot" Martin,** 189¾, Tyler, TX, 10. Bert was considered almost a shoo-in for one of the cruiser titles figured soon to be left vacant by **Evander Holyfield.** And the expectants were led by Bert himself. "I can't get all excited about knocking this guy out," he had the nerve to declare going in, "because all I'm getting is a win."

Well, not quite. In fact, not even close! What fans witnessed was the unfurling of a quiet surprise: first, Martin was putting up a gritty effort; then, he was in the fight; finally, he had complete command! And in the fine tradition of Philly boxing, the fans appreciated the visitor and turned on the hero . . . with a vengeance. Cooper later blamed an injured right for his quiescent showing, but the real cause may have been a lesson in geometry and physics. In spite of his monicker, the spindly legged "Bigfoot" hardly struck an imposing figure. But his broad shoulders and wide, leaning stance seemed to provide him with the leverage to move Cooper around on the inside, depriving the well-constructed favorite of his usual physical advantage. And his odd, sidearm punches dropped in over Bert's shoulders and gloves with almost embarrassing ease. By the later rounds, fans were nearly reveling in the floundering Philadelphian's confusion. But the judging gave the loser a bit of saving grace. "When they announced that it was a unanimous decision, I got kind of nervous," the winner reflected. "I was thinking, 'Uh-oh, he's number one, and maybe they're going to give it to him.

Not to worry, but the scoring was a bit closer than warranted. Eva Shain, Milo Savage and Ron Burns all had 96-94, yet managed to agree on only four rounds. Tony Orlando refereed. Cooper went to 19-3 and Martin 17-5-1.

"This loss doesn't hurt me," Bert insisted. "One good fight and it'll be forgotten."

The co-feature provided in sizzling action what the main event did with tactics and drama. Again, the verdict was unnecessarily close. Frankie Mitchell, 131¾, Phila., gained only a majority decision despite a stellar effort over game Billy Young, 132, Bay City, Mich., 10. The sharply countering Mitchell all but blew out the pressuring Young with vastly superior hands in the early mixing. But Billy's dauntless spirit turned the fight suddenly in the fifth as Frankie appeared exhausted by the frenetic pace. However, Mitchell showed he had the will to go with the skill as he fought off exhaustion, kept his hands moving and sliced both of Young's eyes in later rounds. Billy got Frankie where he wanted him several times, but couldn't keep him on the hook long enough to turn it. Shain's 96-94 and Milo's 97-93 were proper, but Burns was off line at 95-95.

"But maybe the judges were impressed by the fact the other guy kept coming. He's a tough kid, and I give him credit," declared the generous Mitchell in going 20-0. It was Young's first loss after 23 wins and a draw. Ted Pick refereed.

Rebounding well from his first loss, touted Melton Bowen, 209, Miami, won his 10th with a commanding, yet only majority verdict over Kimmuel Odum, 249, Gary, Ind., six. The bulky Odum was a deceptive, moving boxer, but appeared thoroughly intimidated by the predatory Bowen. This time, it was Milo who screwed up at 58-all, while Burns had 57-56 and Shain 58-56. Ref, Orlando.

A potentially fine match was ruined with a meaningless technical draw between Jesus "Manny" Contreras, 207¼, Coventry, RI, and Frank Dupree, 205¾, Jersey City, after only 0:40 of the second of four. The returning Dupree appeared capable of giving Contreras all he wanted when a clash of noggins split Manny's left eye. Ref, Pick.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.).
Matchmakers: Teddy Brenner & Ron Katz.
Attendance: 800 (est.).
TV: ESPN.
Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.

(6-1-88)

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Harrah's Marina Hotel & Casino—Defying the logic that you never get a second chance, Frankie Swindell was adjudged the USBA light heavy titlist after his previous conviction was declared a mistrial. The earlier attempt had resulted in a controversial decision loss to Vaughn Hooks. But when signs of merry-making turned up in Vaughn's wee wee, Frankie was granted a reprieve. This time, Swindell, 174¾,

Nashville, had to prove himself against Jeff Thompson, 174¼, Racine, Wis., via Detroit, a late sub for Uriah Grant. Yet despite the seeming advantage, the "Tennessee Stud" did make it tough on himself before finally emerging with the long-sought prize.

It seems Frankie's "explode and reload" style just isn't conducive to clear-cut wins, at least where decisions are involved. The physically superior Swindell had Jeff nearly out of there on numerous occasions, only to punch himself out and give away rounds while coasting. Meanwhile, Thompson had the uneviable task of continually battling uphill. Frankie's earlier brush with success may have convinced him he was "King of the Mountain," since every time Jeff approached the top, he was rudely tossed back down.

The torment began in the second when a surprise straight right lead froze Jeff in his tracks. Frankie looked, then fired again, sprawling Jeff on the canvas. The methodical, standup southpaw looked beaten, yet gradually insinuated his way back into the fight. In the seventh, the Stud shot his wad again. A booming left hook sent a discouraged Thompson down to one knee on purpose. The dismantling that began in the second appeared to have finally concluded. But again Jeff inched his way back until a free-swinging rally stunned Frankie in the 10th. The two traded a withering assortment through the 12th, with the wilted underdog surviving a lathering to the final bell.

Still, the judges seemed to go for Frankie's big moves and gave little credit to Thompson for effort. Richard F. Murry had 116-111, Al DeVito 115-111 and Joe Pasquale a whopping 117-110. It was the loser's first after 16 wins, with the winner going 16-3. Ref. Tony Perez.

Andre "The" Prophet, 179, Phila., was impressive, tearing apart comebacking Arthur Hall, 172¾, Irvington, NJ, for a TKO at 1:25 of the fifth, scheduled eight. A tough guy to hurt, the rugged Hall was nevertheless in trouble in nearly every round until a trademark right, thrown from the hip, propelled him floorward. Ref, Joe Cortez.

Sleeper Harold Rhodes, 124¾, Jersey City, was equally ingracious to another comebacker, Tommy Barnes, 125, Phila. Tommy tried to return to his old style and whirlwind Harold, but vicious left hook counters twice dumped him. Barnes remained in his corner after the first of six. Ref, Perez.

Scowling villain Chris Organtini, 137¾, Norristown, PA, seemed a bit tamed by the casino atmosphere and left the best part of his game . . . his menace . . . at home. But he still had enough muscle to wear down spindly Andre Hazelwood, 139¼, Baltimore, in a crude mixup, scheduled six. The exhausted Hazelwood dropped in the third and twice in the fourth before Cortez halted it at 1:19.

Promoters: Peltz Boxing Promotions & HBA Inc.
Matchmakers: J. Russell Peltz & Ron Katz.
Attendance: 300 (est.).
TV: Bud Sports.
Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
(5-27-88)

J.R. JOWETT

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Resorts International Hotel-Casino—Ron Katz took a step beyond his usual resplendent matchmaking and crafted a card of expletive deletive fashion; only the opening act appeared still born.

In the main event, Bryant Paden, 137½, Philadelphia, continued his rather intriguing run of disposing of the undefeated when he copped a 10-round split decision over Antonio DeBarros, 139½, Camp Springs, Md., by way of the Cape Verde Islands. Paden, who raised his log to 11-3-1 with three by KO, is now 8-0-1 against previously unbeatens. Antonio is now 13-1, nine by KO.

The taller and rangier DeBarros had **Angelo Dundee** in his corner, and at first glance it looked as if the pupil was indeed a thoroughbred of the future. He moved well, had good leverage and position, and was much too busy for the lucid Paden to catch any mistakes. The speed edge enabled Antonio to stop, pop and then glide out of harm's way. Only an occasional left hook attack to the body gave us any notion that Bryant was in the same ring; Antonio took three of the first four rounds on two cards and all four on the other, *The Ring* agreeing with the shutout. Paden waited patiently.

And just like night and day, it was now his turn; the transition had begun. The suddenly stationiary DeBarros, who had never gone past six before, had hit the wall and was now getting plastered. From rounds five through nine, Paden received 14 of a possible 15 votes, including two 10-8 scores in the ninth.

Only a fighting spirit kept Antonio on his feet, and he showed he may still possess the goods as he rallied in the final stanza, pushing himself all the way as the cooler and deliberate Paden couldn't match the tempo.

Scores: Gene Grant, 96-94 and Eva Shain 96-93, both for Paden, while Rich Strange saw it 95-94 for DeBarros. *The Ring* card read 95-94 for Paden. Ref; Frank Cappuccino.

Said Paden afterwards, "About the seventh round, I could sense that he wasn't doing all the things he had done earlier. I think some of my body shots were catching up to him. When I started catching him on the counters, the fight turned my way. When he came in to throw his big right hand, he turned into my left hook."

As for DeBarros, he said, "He was slick because he was the first guy to bob and weave that well against me. He caught me with good body shots and left hooks, but I think I hurt him, too."

In a sizzling eight-rounder, Angel Sindo, 157½, Deptford, NJ, took a majority decision over Alfonso Bailey, 157½, Jersey City, NJ. I can't foresee the future, but I'll be darned if I witness a better prelim bout this year.

For seven hectic rounds these two guys went at it toe to toe, only to step up the pace in the final three minutes! Before the decision was announced, the promoter said that each boxer would receive a $250.00 bonus. Sheer will to win permeated their every move as the always pleasing Sindo got votes of 78-74 from both Grant and Shain, while *The Ring* agreed with the 76-76 card of Strange. Ref; Rudy Battle. Records: Sindo is now 13-10-1, six KOs, while Bailey fell to 17-2-1, 11 KOs.

Southpaw Pedro Sanchez, 134, NYC, turned pro with a four-round unanimous decision over a very tentative Jose Perez (now 1-1), 132½, Brigantine, NJ. Neither participant appeared to throw a damaging punch. All scores were 40-36. Ref; Battle.

In a matchup of newcomers, Ronnie Hammonds, 142, Philadelphia, pitted his crisp combinations against the doggedness of Heriberto Quintero, 141, W. NY, NJ, and came away with a unanimous decision over four rounds. All three cards read 39-37. Ref; Cappuccino.

The walkout six-rounder ended in a draw between Brian McGinley, 150, Phila., and David Jones, 149½, Millville, NJ., though Brian took *The Ring* card rather comfortably, 58-55. Give Jones credit, however, for coming back from a knockdown and a standing eight count in the second to take the next round in overpowering fashion. Brian took command again in the fourth as Jones bleed from the nose from the second round on.

Scores: Eugene Grant, 57-56 for McGinley, Eva Shain, 57-54 for Jones (Eva, how could you?) and Rich Strange, 56-56. Ref; Battle. Jones is now 4-2-1, two by KO. McGinley's log reads 15-5-2, three by KO.

Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.
Promoter: Houston Boxing Association.
Television: USA Cable (Live).
(5-26-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

▶**SECAUCUS**—Meadowlands Hilton—This successful dinner/boxing/entertainment promotion concluded for summer hiatus with a short hop across the open sewer of the Hackensack River. Jim Wiley set up shop at the location previously held by Murad Muhammad, within sight of his old venue at the Sheraton. A local "natural" between two of the house fighters never really developed as such, with Hector Rosario proving to be just too much for Pat Prisco. The tricky Rosario, 163½, Bronx, displayed a mastery of "aggressive counterpunching," skillfully maneuvering his body within range to draw leads. Prisco, 161, Madison, NJ, walked into a cat-quick left hook counter that surprised him onto the canvas as the bell ended the first. Two rounds later, a similar blow sent Pat reeling into the ropes, where a glancing right dropped him again. Prisco tried to stay in the fight, but committed the cardinal error of getting cuffed on the ropes at length without firing back. Ref Vinnie Rainone finally saw enough and stopped the scheduled 10 at 2:48 of the third.

A prospect who bears watching, southpaw Tracy Spann, 138, Plainfield, deserved better than he got from Raul Zalazar, 134, Mexico City, in a scheduled 10. Zalazar folded from a combination and was counted out at 1:06 of the first. Ref, Tony Perez.

Fireplug slugger Curt Exum, 148, Madison, Wis., willed himself to win over more skilled Mark Farley, 144¼, E. Orange, in a hotly contested four. Exum finished strong to pick up a unanimous decision. Ref, Perez.

Tall, standup Mike Hooper, 148, Irvington, used his height and reach well to clobber poor Bradley Austin, 148, Bronx, via unanimous decision in a good four. Ref, Rainone.

Donald Allison, 143, Georgetown, Guyana, appeared the beneficiary of some poor judgment in getting a unanimous verdict over more purposeful Jose Nieves, 140, NYC, in a hardfought four. Ref, Rainone.

Promoter: Jim Wiley (Hudson County Enterprises).
Matchmaker: Don Elbaum.
Attendance: 250, $10,000 (est.).
Judges: Eva Shain, Ron Burns & Rich Strange.
Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.
(6-17-88)

J.R. JOWETT

NEW YORK

Veteran heavyweight Renaldo Snipes stayed active with a TKO over game Terry Armstrong in an entertaining punchout at the Felt Forum.

▶**NEW YORK CITY**—Felt Forum—Aaron Davis (150, The Bronx) stayed unbeaten, untied and unscored-upon with a ninth-round stoppage of Tyrone Moore (148½, Louisville, Ky.) in a main go scheduled for 10.

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Moore did well in the early rounds, cutting Davis over the left eye and appearing to be generally too clever for the younger Davis, but Davis kept plugging away with jabs and body shots, and by the sixth round Moore was simply leaning on the ropes and taking it. A sharp right to the jaw decked Moore briefly in the seventh; he was down twice more in the eighth, barely making it to his feet the second time, and ref Carl Schroeder decided to retire him before the ninth round could begin. An unexciting but workmanlike effort by Davis, whose record is 17-0, 10 kayoes. Moore may be more or less shot; his record stands at 30-6-1, 24 kayoes.

A fairly rotten 10-rounder saw Forum regular Matt Farrago (157, Center Moriches, N.Y.) go to 24-0-1, 10 kayoes, with a unanimous points win over well-traveled Jake Torrance (156, Chicago). Torrance, now 15-23, five kayoes, apparently just wanted to survive, and he did a lot of running and holding, abusing the privilege somewhat. Farrago forced the action, but was unable to make things exciting or to look very good himself; he eventually resorted to yelling insults at Torrance after the bell and generally behaving like a creep, taking pattern after a large contingent of his big-mouthed fans. The fight held much the same pattern throughout, with Farrago leading and Torrance defending and countering, with nobody landing a damaging blow. Judge Artie Levine scored it 10-0, Farrago; judges Marvin Goldberg and Ted Wint had it 6-4, Farrago; *The Ring* had the winner ahead by 7-3. The crowd booed the decision, presumably because Farrago had failed to score a kayo; the question of who won was never in serious doubt. Still, Farrago spent a good long time in the post-fight interviews castigating the judges who had presumed to award any rounds to Torrance, claiming that he was a victim of reverse-hometownism. The kid's really got an attitude. Joe Santarpia refereed.

Shopworn **Renaldo Snipes** (215, Yonkers, N.Y.) surprised the fans by actually getting involved in an exciting fight, stopping Terry Armstrong (226, Cincinnati) at 2:55 of the eighth in a scheduled 10. This was a straight punch-up, with Armstrong showing far more aggression than had been expected of him, repeatedly backing Snipes up and seeming to hurt him a few times, and Snipes replying with massive, slogging blows. Snipes' timing was way off, causing the contest to be very close for the first five rounds. But in the sixth and seventh rounds it became manifest that Armstrong was running out of steam; Snipes began to land more frequently and with greater effect. Armstrong tried one last offensive in the eighth, rocking his man with a flurry, but Snipes came back with a series of right uppercuts that left Armstrong staggering. A final roundhouse right put the Ohioan on the floor; he staggered up at nine but was helpless enough to force ref Charlie Norkus to stop the bout. Snipes scored his 16th kayo on an overall record of 30-7-1; Armstrong goes home with an 8-7, three kayoes record.

In another flat-out brawl, Frank D'Orio (140, Somerville, Mass.) raised his record to 13-2, 11 kayoes, when Jeff Goodwin (143, Knoxville, Tenn.) failed to come up for the sixth in a scheduled eight. Goodwin, who's now 15-8 with six kayoes, gave a good account of himself but was no match for the hard-hitting D'Orio, who systematically wore his opponent down and reduced him to a punching bag. Oscar Perez refereed.

Ricardo Cepeda (124, The Bronx) stayed unbeaten at 8-0-1, seven kayoes, stopping Carlos Vergaras (123½, Hartford, Conn.) after three rounds of a scheduled eight. Cepeda won each round in one-sided fashion, mainly with body shots, but the decisive factor was a horrifying cut above Vergaras' right eye; his seconds were unable to stanch the bleeding, and ref Norkus wouldn't let Vergaras out for the fourth. His record is now 7-2, three kayoes.

Art Tucker (210, Newark, N.J.) continued to impress with a two-round stoppage of Gary Lightbourne (216, Las Vegas) in a scheduled six. Tucker wobbled his man with a sneaky left hook followed by a flurry early in that round, causing ref Carl Schroeder to administer that modern abomination, the standing count. Shortly thereafter, a big overhand right decked Lightbourne for real, and when he arose ref Schroeder decided not to let it continue. It was Tucker's ninth kayo on an 11-0-1 record; Lightbourne's 12-5, five kayoes.

In an excellent six, Kevin Pompey (147½, Troy, N.Y.) won a split nod over Stephan Johnson (146½, Brooklyn). This was a battle of two smart, strong boxer-punchers, both of them a bit raw but very willing. Pompey seemed to have the better speed and more accurate punches, while Johnson was a bit more aggressive and seemed to hit harder. All rounds were extremely close and hard to score; *The Ring* thought Johnson had turned in a slightly steadier performance, and gave him the nod, 4-1-1. Judge Marvin Goldberg agreed with this score, but judge Nick Cimino had it 4-2 for Pompey, and judge Artie Levine had it 3-3 in rounds but 4-3 in points for Pompey. Pompey goes to 9-2, five kayoes; Johnson is 6-2, three kayoes. Rematch please!

Bobby McCarthy (125, Cliffside Park, N.J.) scored his second kayo in as many fights, spoiling the pro debut of Genaro Andujar (127, The Bronx), with a one-round TKO in a scheduled four. McCarthy, a mere flailer, battered the surprised Andujar around the ring for a few seconds; when it was clear that the Bronxite was too overwhelmed to hit back, ref Santarpia waved it off at the 1:34 mark.

In the walkout, Jorge Rivas (130, Spanish Harlem) and Pedro Alindato (127½, Albany) fought a six-round draw. Rivas was the more aggressive, Alindato the more intelligent; scoring was take-your-pick in every round. Rivas' record is now 6-1-1, three kayoes; Alindato's is 12-4-2, four kayoes. Perez refereed.

Attendance: 1,240.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Promoter: Madison Square Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman.
(6-16-88)

▶**NEW YORK CITY**—Felt Forum—Gino Gelormino (129½, Levittown, N.Y.) raised his record to 25-1, 17 kayoes, by stopping Mike Grow (129½, Reno, Nev.) at 0:59 of the 12th and final round of a boring mismatch. Gelormino dominated the entire bout, losing but one round on *The Ring*'s card, but seemed not to know how to press an advantage. Grow was down from a right to the jaw in the second round, and appeared ready to go at any time from the seventh on, but Gino fought with surprising conservatism until a sudden barrage of 20 or so unanswered bombs early in the 12th forced ref Al LoBianco to call a halt. Even at that, Grow, who's now 16-4-1 with seven kayoes, looked more worn out than knocked out.

Comebacking **Edwin Rosario** (139½, San Juan) had an easy enough time against Ramiro Lozano (138, Houston), stopping him at 1:12 of the third in a scheduled 10. The first two rounds were dull and close; a right to the jaw decked Lozano for an eight-count early in the third, and a series of left hooks followed by another right soon had him down again. At this point his corner wisely threw in the towel. Rosario's record improves to 27-3, 23 kayoes, but the fight told us nothing about his current viability. Lozano now stands at 22-8, 17 kayoes. Nic Drake refereed.

Popular local boy Richard Burton (160, The Bronx) won a one-sided but entertaining 10-round unanimous duke from Tim Knight (160, Louisville, Ky.). Knight, who came in with an unimpressive 8-7, two kayoes record, was willing all the way, and made a fight of it, but Burton was simply too strong and too experienced, imposing his will more and more as the fight wore on. Judges Harold Lederman and George DeGabriel both gave the nod to Burton, 8-2; judge Bernie Friedkin had it 9-1, Burton; and *The Ring* had it 10-0, Burton. The winner is now 15-4, 12 kayoes. Johnny Colan refereed.

Up-and-coming Tunde Foster (137, Brooklyn) upped his record to 16-0-1, 12 kayoes, by stopping Jerry Smith (136½, Birmingham, Ala.) at 2:12 of the second in a scheduled eight. Smith, who leads with his face, went down from a right to the body midway through the second, got up wobbly, and promptly fell again from a nasty right to the jaw. Ref Fred Ucci stopped it at that point. Smith is now 7-4, four kayoes.

Bobby McCarthy (126, Cliffside Park, N.J.) won a battle of debutants, stopping Angel Jimenex (121½, Perth Amboy, N.J.) at 1:03 of the first in a scheduled four. Jimenez looked scared to death, squeezed his eyes shut every time he threw a punch as though such a move would prevent an effective counter, and was soon disabused of this notion by a left hook to the jaw which sent him down for the count. Ucci refereed.

Willie Edwards (151, Philadelphia) staged a pretty good one-man show in improving his record to 2-1, one kayo, decking Bobby Gorney (150½, Oyster Bay, N.Y.) three times in the opening round before ref Drake stepped in at the 1:03 mark. It had been scheduled for four. Gorney's record is now 0-1-1.

Almost the exact same thing, only quicker, took place in a scheduled four between Kevin Daly (176, Brooklyn) and Fred Johnson (172, Brooklyn): Three punches by Daly, three knockdowns, end of fight. Daly's now 2-0, Johnson, 0-2. Drake refereed.

Tomas Hernandez (136, The Bronx) took a unanimous four-round nod from Julio Merino (135, Newark, N.J.), cutting his man up and shaking him repeatedly with left hooks. Merino had heart but few skills. Ucci refereed.

Attendance: 1,897.

Announcer: Ed Derian.
Promoter: Madison Square Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman.
(6-2-88)

JOSEPH D'O'BRIAN

▶**NEW YORK CITY**—Cooperative Auditorium—Headlining again was **Juan Laporte**, and this time he didn't mess around. The 132-lb. Brooklyn resident upped his record to 31-7, 17 by KO, when he took this scheduled 10-rounder by TKO at 1:47 of the third against Sylvester Kennon, 131, now billed out of Houston, Ref; Joe Santarpia.

Juan jumped on his foe right off the bat and by round's end Kennon had been floored twice. Somehow, Sylvester opened up himself with the beginning of Round Two, but Juan took over to take that round as well. In the third, Juan sat down on his punches and let go the heavy artillery as Kennon was stopped on his feet while being pummeled on the ropes after getting off the floor a third time.

In a pairing of two veterans, 32-year-old **Angel Cruz,** 142½, Bethlehem, Pa. took a 10-round split decision over 41-year-old **Saoul Mamby** 141, Queens, NY. The scoring was all over the place: Al Reid had it 9-1 for Cruz, Georgie Colon, 6-4 for Cruz, while Coley Wallace tabbed it 8-2 for the former WBC junior welterweight champion Mamby!

Cruz came out fast and took the initiative, but a cut over the right eye suffered in the third began to bother him. But he stuck it out and did well in four, five and six by muscling Mamby about the ring, thus avoiding the jab of Mamby. In the seventh, concerned about the direction of the fight, Mamby rallied, but it fell short for a heartbreaking defeat for the aged one. Ref; Nick Drake.

Cruz is now listed at 26-5-2 with eight wins coming by KO. Saoul has a record of 36-19-5.

Juan Muriel, 126½, NYC, proved too fast and too sharp for 37-year-old Domenic Monaco, 126, Brooklyn, as he took an eight-round unanimous decision by scores of 5-3 from Colon and Wallace and 6-2 from Reid. Monaco had no reflexes but plenty of heart, which kept him on his feet throughout. Ref; Harry Smith.

Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Promoter: Magical Promotions.
Matchmaker: Harold Weston Jr.
(5-27-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

OHIO

▶**SHARONVILLE**—Ramada Inn—The first pro boxing card ever held in this Cincinnati suburb proved successful despite a couple of bouts falling out.

The main event featured Cincinnati's Richard "Hard Face" Mason, 190, against Earl Lewis, 195, Youngstown, for the vacant Ohio cruiserweight title.

Mason was simply too strong for the game Lewis, winning every round easily en route to a unanimous, 12-round decision. Though he went down in the first and again in the seventh and took a pounding throughout, Lewis kept things interesting with his dogged determination and gritty effort, and the result was an exciting fight. The scores read 60-49 and 60-45 (twice).

Jerry Massey, 138, Cincinnati, was rocked early but came back to hurt and drop a reckless Kevin France, 140, Cleveland, for the count at 1:45 of the first of a scheduled six.

Mustapha Cole, 160, Cincinnati, started strong, but faded against veteran Clint Longmire, 159, Youngstown, who appeared to take the fight. However, Cole came out with a unanimous, six-round verdict for a controversial win in this entertaining bout. The scores read 29-26 and 28-27 (twice). *The Ring* scorecard had it 28-26, Longmire.

Robert Briggs, 149, Youngstown, neatly boxed his way to a unanimous, six-round decision over Tyrone Mack, 149, Cincinnati. Briggs scored at will with right-hand leads as Mack displayed absolutely no head movement. The scores were 29-26 and 28-27 (twice).

Promoter: Ellis Bonner/Bonner-Creek Promotions.
Matchmaker: Richard Christmas.
Attendance: 275 (est.).
(5-26-88)

ERICH GLIEBE

PENNSYLVANIA

▶**PHILADELPHIA**—Cambria Boys Club—Boxing is a brutal business, but there are some of us who apparently have DNA with masochistic tendencies. Small (tiny?) club shows are few and far between in the big metropolis. Too much of a hassle for too meager a payoff. Why bother?

Ask Vic Capucino and he'll just give you that what can I say smile and then probably tell you some long forgotten story line about helping neighborhood kids stay off the streets. And he's succeeding, maybe not as a promoter (he did, however, have plans for a July show), but certainly as a caretaker of the young and the restless.

Riddled by fallouts, his gym, which was once the home of the locally famous Hennelly's Boys Club and which sits atop a beer and soda distributorship, had to make do with three scheduled six-rounders and three exhibitions of three rounds each in order to meet the state minimum of 26 rounds for the paying public. At $11.00 a ticket, everybody (yes, even "the press") paid to support the effort.

In the featured six, Tommy Quinn, 177, Phila, took a rather wide unanimous decision over Jimmy Ruoff, 182, Reading, Pa.

Ruoff did little to make it a competitive match, even with Quinn blowing hard after only three rounds. The visitor was dropped once in Round Two and twice more in the fourth. His only hope of victory would have to be an all-out assault, but except for 20 seconds early in the final round, he offered a little in the punching department. This made it easy for Quinn, who didn't do much more than bounce around rather aimlessly, jabbing and mugging. Both boxers apparently were apprehensive that their legs weren't close to 100%.

Scoring: Manny Altman, 29-22. Ozzie Sadler, 29-24, and Charlie Sgrillo, 29-22. *The Ring* card wasn't even that generous for Ruoff, tabbing Quinn a 30-20 winner.

James Barham, 166, Phila., evened his record at 7-7 (three by KO) by taking a six-round unanimous decision over Kenny Page, 162, also Philadelphia. Page, in his usual meek style, let Barham take the lead in every round as James at least exhibited a modicum amount of diversity with combinations to both body and head. Altman and Sadler agreed it was a shutout at 30-24 (same as *The Ring*), while Sgrillo had one even round at 30-25. The best I can do on Page for a pro record is 5-9.

Lanky Sammy Speach, 217, Phila., brought his pro mark up to 3-0 in a scheduled six when he won by TKO at 2:37 of the second round over George Wilson, 190, Wilmington, Delaware. The overmatched Wilson, who saw his record fall to 1-5, gave it a decent try in the opening session but soon fell apart against a much taller opponent. In Round Two, Wilson was dropped by a left hook to the body and later by a right uppercut to the chin. With nowhere else to hide, George was trapped in Speach's own corner where he was being tattooed when the refereee stopped it.

Timekeeper: Tony Stanza.
Matchmaker: Harold Moore.
Referee: John Carroll.
Attendance: 450.
(6-10-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

▶**PHILADELPHIA**—Blue Horizon—Trying to make the best of a bad situation, promoter Russell Peltz headlined the guy who recently destroyed house fighter Hugh "Buttons" Kearney. It was hoped that **Jorge Maysonet** would prove an attraction to the area's Hispanic fans, not to mention those who love a dynamite puncher. But out-of-town fighters and uneven matches have always been a hard sell on the savvy Philly market. Those who stayed away from the below-average turnout didn't miss a lot, either, as Maysonet, 151, NYC, took out late sub Milton Leaks, 150½, Hartford, at just 1:39 of the first, scheduled 10.

Milton was oddly dropped by a straight left at the outset, then tried to ride out the storm with footwork. But with that insufficient to hold the fiery Maysonet at bay, Milton set to throw a left hook. Beaten to the punch by a better one, he was dumped again. Leaks sprung up, but Frank Cappuccino didn't like his looks, and stopped it over a weak protest. Milton fell to 14-7, with six of the losses in his last seven bouts.

Andre "The" Prophet, 181½, N. Phila., KO'd Dawud Shaw, 182, Sharon Hill, at 1:12 of the fourth, scheduled eight. Dawud tried to expose the touted Andre as a false Prophet, but that failing, dropped from a left hook to the ribs and right uppercut to the head and remained for the count. Dawud became 15-17 and hasn't won in a year and a half. Ref, Charlie Sgrillo.

A one-time loser who's mounted a win streak of late, Mike Brown, 138½, N. Phila., rose to 8-14-2 with a KO of Anthony Collier, 138½, Cleveland. The messy scheduled eight saw the more aggressive Brown suffer a deep scalp wound from a clash of heads for his efforts. But Mike completely closed Collier's left eye, and when he landed a shot right on it, Anthony could only drop in pain to be counted out at 1:42 of the fourth. The loser dropped to 4-5. Ref, Sgrillo.

In the night's most action-packed crowd-pleaser, Carlos Santiago, 163, N. Phila., won a unanimous verdict from Johnny Miller, 171, Franklinville, NJ, six. In only his second bout, Carlos had the more experienced Miller nearly out of there in a wild and unruly first. Eventually tiring of hitting Miller in the head, Santiago was badly busted up and ready to fall by the fourth. But Johnny punched himself out, and had to jive through the final sessions with leaden arms dangling. The erratic Miller dropped to 4-5. Ref. Cappuccino.

Tony Green, 126, W. Phila., provided a rude welcome for comebacking Roy Melton (now Rashid El Malik), 129½, Wynnewood. Ripping left hooks had the game Rashid out on the ropes when rescued by Sgrillo at 1:54 of the first, scheduled four. The loser fell to 4-3.

Jose Avila, 143, Bronx, debuted with an easy TKO of Earl Madia (Williams), 139½, W. Phila., at 2:09 of the first, scheduled four. Madia was dropped by a left hook to the breadbasket to go 0-3. Ref, Cappuccino.

Promoter: Peltz Boxing Promotions.
Matchmaker: J. Russell Peltz.
Attendance: 647, $7,441.
TV: USA Network.
Judges: Al Morris, Lynne Carter & Woody Marcus.
Timekeeper: Tony Stenza.
Announcer: Hank Kropinski.
(6-16-88)

J.R. JOWETT

TENNESSEE

▶**MEMPHIS**—Omni-Daisy Theatre—Going more than six rounds for the first time, Covington's Chuck Glover, 142, ran his record to 22-2 with a unanimous, 10-round decision victory over Muncie, Indiana's Jerry Bilyeau, 142.

In the first five rounds it was all Glover as he peppered Bilyeau continually with left-right combinations. In the last five frames, the tough and rugged Bilyeau started to come alive, but Glover proved too much as the final bell rang.

The judges had it scored 97-96, 96-92 and 96-94.

"I figured I'd wear him down in the first four rounds," Bilyeau told Ron Higgins of *The Commercial Appeal*. "I looked over at him on his stool at the end of the fourth

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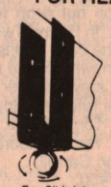

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round and he seemed to be breathing kind of hard. I knew his hands were hurt, so I kept ducking so he would hit me in my head. I guess I've watched too many Rocky movies."

Glover, who broke both hands in a loss to Robert Dixon last year, told Higgins, "It was so painful at the end of the sixth, I wouldn't have minded packing it up and going home."

Clemie Buckingham, 139, scored a not-so-glorious victory over fellow Memphian Semmie Black, 134, as Black was disqualified in the middle of the fourth and final round. Referee Jim Kidd broke the fighters from a clinch and told them to box. Black, misunderstanding Kidd's instructions, wandered to a neutral corner. Buckingham continued to stalk Black, landing a couple of blows as Black was partially turned. This resulted in Black trying a few wrestling moves that brought the cornermen of both into the ring.

"He hit me in the back of the head," Black told Higgins. "The ref told me to go to the corner, and I went there. I don't understand why I was disqualified."

In the semi-windup, Millington's Reggie Barnes, 164, pounded out a six-round, unanimous decision over Anthony Campbell, 164.

Muncie's Dean Meadows, 162, scored a four-round decision over Memphian Earl Kirkwood, 166.

In the opener, Willow Thomas, 154, Meridian, Mississippi, earned a four-round, unanimous decision over Robert Whitfield, 160, of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Promoters: Tom Harmon/Mid-South Boxing, Inc.
Matchmaker: Red Fortner.
Announcer: Sam Garland.
Judges: Mark Acheson, Gilbert Beam, James Perkins & Haywood Watts.
Referees: Jim Kidd & Irving Tucker.
Timekeeper: Rod Cardone.
Physician: Jeff Hoover.
Attendance: 600 (est.).
(6-8-88)

MICHAEL GLENN

WEST VIRGINIA

▶**BECKLEY**—Raleigh County Armory—West Virginia cruiserweight champion Bobby Thomas, Lochgelly, WV, scored an easy four-round knockout over Charlotte, North Carolina's Maurice Moore in an eight-round non-title matchup.

The 32-year-old Thomas will defend his title later this year against Beckley's Bert Gravely, 189, who TKO'd Frankie Hines, 190, Charlotte, NC, in the third round of a scheduled eight-round co-main event.

Strangely enough, **Jose Ribalta,** (ranked No. six by the WBA, No. eight by the WBC and No. 12 by the IBF), did not even receive co-main event status by the promoters. Even so, the 230-pound Cuban, fighting out of Miami, quickly disposed of Jose Garcia, 248, El Paso, TX, in the first round of a scheduled 10.

State welterweight kingpin Donald Gwinn, 155, Charleston, WV, emerged with a first-round KO of Terry Lee, 155, Cleveland, in a six-round non-title bout.

Toronto, Canada's Donnell Wingfield, 177, continued his winning ways by icing Larry Howell, 186, Charlotte, NC, in the third round of a scheduled four-round battle.

In a decision that defied description, Nate Moore, 163, Huntington, WV, "won" a four-round verdict over Parkersburg's John Loscar, 168. The 23-year-old Loscar devastated Moore over the first three rounds with a body attack that eventually broke two of Moore's ribs. Moore did win the final round by outworking the obviously winded Loscar, but his effort was not nearly enough to overcome Loscar's seemingly insurmountable advantage.

The only other bout to end in a decision occurred when local product Robert "The Spoiler" Curry, 161, captured a four-round nod over Carlton "Speedy" Brown, 165, Charlotte, NC.

In a scheduled six-round welterweight contest, Tommy Small, 147, Sophia, WV, posted a one-round KO over Gene Holley, 150, Cleveland.

"Iron" Mike Posey, 184, Weston, WV, downed Billy "The Kid" Downs, 184, Ashtebula, Ohio, in the first round.

Finally, Jessie "The Tank" McGhee, 238, Welch, WV, blew away James "The Hawk" Holley, 210, Cleveland, in two rounds.

Promoter: West Virginia Sports Promotions, Inc.
Matchmaker: Jerry Thomas.
Referees: Butch McNeely & Frank Hartenstein Jr.
Judges: Joe Cook, Bob Golden & Walter Arlt.
Timekeepers: Paul Burdette & Loren McGrady.
Announcer: Fred Persinger.
(6-3-88)

LEE GROVES

CANADA

NEW BRUNSWICK

▶**MONCTON**—The Maritimes middleweight title changed hands when titleholder Danny Winters of Parrsboro was clearly outpointed over 12 rounds by Memremcook's Jacques Leblanc.

In his second fight in 36 months, French-Acadian Leblanc put a nice jab in the face of the aggressive and tough Winters, whose record fell to a reported 12-3-1. The new champion, 13-2-1, now wants Canadian champion Muhammad Eltassi. Both weighed 165.

On the undercard, Toronto welterweight Terry Francis stopped local Allan Cormier in three of a scheduled eight.

Another Ontario welterweight, Tom Walker, scored a clean, third-round TKO over Fredericton's Bob Green.

Another local, Tim Pettipas, was stopped in three of a lightweight argument by Montreal's Michel Galarneau.

Promoter: Jean-Louis Fontaine.
Attendance: 2,200.
(5-25-88)

NOVA SCOTIA

▶**PORT HAWKSBURY**—Commonwealth and Canadian light heavyweight champion **Willy Featherstone** retained his titles stopping a game and strong challenger in Dave Fiddler of Winnipeg.

In the early going, Fiddler did the forcing, winning a few rounds. But from the fifth on, it was all Featherstone. The Winnipeg fighter was cut in the fifth, dropped in the eighth by a vicious body attack and, in the ninth, after a second knockdown in the round, the referee wisely stopped it. A Featherstone – **Don Lalonde** WBC light heavyweight title fight would be a real dandy should it be made.

Sackville welterweight Wayne Gordon won an eight-round decision over Toronto's Pat McWilliams. This was Gordon's first fight since his loss to Canadian champ Donovan Boucher.

Cleveland fighters won all three prelims.

Tommy Hanks edged out an eight-round decision over veteran Nedrick Simmons of Toronto in a lightweight setto.

Heavyweight Art Card repeated a previous win, outscoring Wade Parsons over six rounds.

Lemark Davis, stablemate of Card and Hanks, got the job done on Pictou welterweight Billy Sponagle in another six-rounder.

Attendance: 2,400.
(5-27-88)

SASKATCHEWAN

▶**SASKATOON**—Saskatoon Place Complex—It took 2:13 for **Donovan "Razor" Ruddock** to win the Canadian heavyweight title left vacant by the retirement of **Willie de Wit**.

The 24-year-old Jamaican-born Ruddock let fly a thunderous right to the head of Edmonton veteran and former champion Ken Lakusta and sent him into permanent retirement.

When the "fight" began, it was obvious it would not last very long as Ruddock, who recently entered *The Ring*'s top 10 heavyweights, measured his opponent with a long left, then dropped the right hand.

Ruddock improved his record to 19-1-1 with 12 knockouts.

Two other Canadian title bouts were staged on the undercard, the first seeing featherweight king Barrington Francis retaining his title by cutting St. John's Clinton Hannah into pieces before stopping him in the fourth round after Hannah had made a few trips to the canvas.

Canadian middleweight champion Muhammad Eltasi and contender Terry Jesmer, both from Winnipeg, staged a brutal fight, more of a street fight than anything. Eltassi finally stopped Jesmer in 11 rounds after both were guilty of numerous irregularities. At one point, they were kicking each other!

In an eight-round heavyweight fight, comebacking **Bernardo Mercado** won a unanimous decision over Conroy Nelson of Ottawa.

Attendance: 1,500.
(5-28-88)

MICHEL GLADU

MEXICO

BAJA CALIFORNIA

▶**TIJUANA**—Plaza de Toros—Puncher **Juan Jose "Dinamita" Estrada** posted a major upset, winning the WBA junior featherweight title with a split, 12-round decision over **Bernardo Pinango,** *The Ring*'s No. 3-ranked featherweight.

Estrada entered the bout as the WBC international titleholder.

Estrada was the aggressor, with Pinango content to box and counter. Estrada began fast, but by mid-point Pinango appeared to be taking control as he jabbed well and made Estrada miss. The hometown crowd even booed Estrada in the eighth as Pinango pushed him back and scored with both hands to the chin.

But the bout remained close throughout, with neither gaining a distinct advantage.
(5-28-88)

▶**TIJUANA**—Bantamweight **Raul "Jibaro" Perez**, ranked in the top 10 by *The Ring*, stopped Martin "Fajerito" Lopez in the third round.

Jorge "Maromero" Paez TKO'd Carlos Linares in the third round of a lightweight match.

Isaias Zamudio won from former Mexican junior flyweight champion Luis "Pringa" Hernandez in 10.

▶**TIJUANA**—Andres "Carita" Sandoval TKO'd Fernando "Escorpion" Segura in the ninth round of a lightweight contest.

Featherweight Alejandro "Babe Chispas" Venezuela stopped Martin "Conde" Bobadilla in seven.

Lightweight "Yori" Mancilla stopped Jose Ahumada in one.

Welterweight Jesus Ramirez bested Jaime Castorena in 10.

Roberto Chavez, brother of **Julio Cesar Chavez**, defeated Jose Luis Montiel in a lightweight bout.

Cecilio Espino halted Porfirio Torres in the first of a featherweight scrap.
(4-19-88)

▶**MEXICALI**—Isaias Zamudio took a unanimous, 10-round decision over Jose Manuel "Conejo" Diaz in the flyweight class.

Jorge "Maromero" Paez stopped Rafael "Gato" Toledano in two, lightweights.

Eduardo "Fili" Montoya TKO'd Antonio "Tanaka" Gonzalez in six, lightweights.

Middleweight Roberto Rosiles knocked out Olegario Beltran in two.
(4-23-88)

▶**TIJUANA**—Jose Felix Montiel stopped Felipe "Tequilita" Torres in the third round of a bantamweight match.
(4-11-88)

▶**LA PAZ**—Francisco "Chango" Carballo embalmed Ruben Cortina in eight to retain his Mexican middleweight championship.

Isaias "Bestia" Lucero stopped Lorenzo Benitez in three to retain his Mexican light heavyweight championship.
(4-29-88)

▶**TIJUANA**—Herminio Delgado won a unanimous decision in 12 rounds over Ramon Verdugo to retain his Mexican lightweight title.

James Kinchen of the United States TKO'd James Mitchell, also of the US, in the fourth round of a light heavyweight match.

Manuel Pascasio Armenta whipped Ramiro "Aquilita" Rodriguez in a 10-round lightweight battle.

Lightweights Tony Contreras of California and Othon Garcia fought a six-round no contest.
(5-2-88)

CHIHUAHUA

▶**JUAREZ**—Fernie "Matorrito" Morales stopped Rene "Rana" Rodriguez in nine to retain his Mexican bantamweight crown.

Welterweight Ray "Azteca" Morales chilled Rocky Garcia in one.

Lightweight Aaron Delgado destroyed Jorge "Atalaya" Hernandez in one.

Martin Lopez won from Pastor Frias in an eight-round featherweight bout.
(4-15-88)

▶**JUAREZ**—Wilibardo "Willy" Salazar KO'd Ricardo Mijares in six to retain his Mexican flyweight title.

Lightweight Jesus "Chuyin" Rojas bested Jorge "Canon" Hernandez in 10.
(4-22-88)

▶**JUAREZ**—Santos "Apache" Moreno won a unanimous, 10-round decision over Ignacio "Nacho" Madrid, lightweights.

Flyweight Cesar "Cobrita" Soto won by disqualification over Armando "Tontin" Velazco in four.

Bantamweight Martin Galvan stopped Juan C. Nunez in one.
(4-29-88)

CHIAPAS

▶**TAPACHULA**—Sergio "Tapana" Arreola knocked out Mario Olmedo in four to capture the Mexican welterweight championship.
(4-30-88)

GUERRERO

▶**ZIHUATANEJO**—Jose Angel "Pulgarcito" Noguedo beat Pedro de la Cruz in a 10-round featherweight bout.
(4-23-88)

FEDERAL DISTRICT

▶**MEXICO CITY**—Featherweight Miguel Gonzalez destroyed Eduardo Jacques in two.

Leobardo Mancilla and Julio Pliego drew in 10, featherweights.

Fernando Martinez stopped Mario "Flit" Perez in three, flyweights.

Bantamweight Vladimir Gallegos stopped Alejandro Reyes in two.
(4-9-88)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—Abraham Martinez, Illinois junior welterweight champion, won a unanimous, 10-round decision over veteran Javier "Memin" Barcenas.

Featherweight Javier Pichardo stopped Lino "Kanazawa" Tellez in seven.

Ismael Benitez stopped Roberto Cardoza in five, flyweights.

Roberto Villarreal stopped Martin Lozada in the first round of a featherweight matchup.

Flyweight Jorge Santos won over Jorge Garcia in four.
(4-16-88)

▶**NAUCALPAN**—Sulio Sanchez, brother of the late **Salvador Sanchez**, won a unanimous decision over Sergio Aguirre in a 10-round welterweight bout.

Fernando Hernandez stopped Esteban Ayala in eight to capture the Mexican flyweight title.

Candido Carmona won an eight-round, split decision over Jose Concepcion Carmona.
(4-16-88)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—Featherweights Miguel Gonzalez and Francisco Laguna drew over 10.

Welterweight Felipe "Tiburon" Rojas demolished veteran Miguel Landin in one.

Lightweights Luis Avila and Roberto "Costeno" Molina technically drew in one.

Bantamweight Alejandro Zarate stopped Jose Luis Herrera in one.

Featherweight Mariano Canete stopped Guillermo Alonso in three.
(4-23-88)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—Mexican junior bantamweight champion Armando Castro stopped Sergio "Popeye" Cornejo in three rounds to retain his title.

Fernando Martinez and Raul Acosta drew in 10, flyweights.

Featherweight Manuel Osme won a split, eight-round decision over Jose Luis Sarmiento.

Featherweight Bernardo Arguelles TKO'd Rogelio Perez in one.

Featherweight Oscar Zarate stopped Antonio "Mono" Hernandez in one.
(4-30-88)

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QUINTANA ROO

▶**CANCUN**—Antonio "Tony" Hong won over Francisco "Paco" Ramirez in 10, flyweights.

Unbeaten bantamweight Jose Juan Xool was held to an eight-round draw by Carlos "Piruli" Lopez.
(4-6-88)

▶**CANCUN**—Antonio "Tony" Hong stopped Leonardo Lenisman in two, flyweights.

Jose Juan Xool upped his record to 11-0-1 with a unanimous, eight-round verdict over Joe Alvarez, bantamweights.

VERACRUZ

▶**POZA RICA**—Justo Zuniga won over Jorge "Estudiante" Rivera in a 10-round flyweight bout.
(4-2-88)

SINALOA

▶**CULIACAN**—Jose "Galan" Lopez whipped Roberto "Dinimita" Noriega in a 10-round lightweight contest.

Guadalupe Rubio knocked out Martin Moreno in three, featherweights.
(4-1-88)

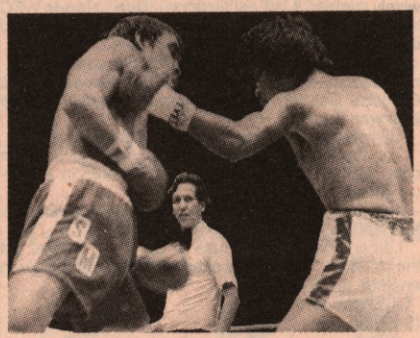
YUCATAN

▶**MERIDA**—Wilberth "Zorrito" Cupul TKO'd Javier "Pinochito" Gonzalez in six, flyweights.

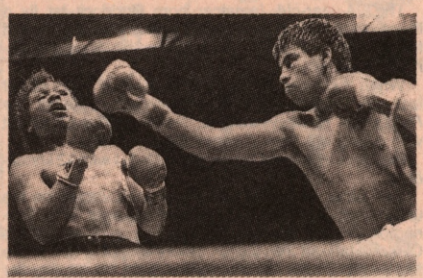
Bantamweight Luis Tut knocked out Roger Cabrera in two.

Bantamweight Luis Ruiz Lizarraga chilled Santos Chale in two.

Flyweights Tilo Duran and Jorge Chel drew in six.
(4-13-88)



Santiago Mendez (left), who is known as "The Cholul's Express," en route to a two-round kayo over Evaristo Morales in Merida. The referee is Jesus Manuel Erosa.



Lightweight Oscar Gallegos (right) on his way to a split decision over Jose Bernal in Merida.

▶**MERIDA**—Santiago Mendez, the WBC's number five strawweight contender, stopped Evaristo Morales in two.

Southpaw lightweight Oscar Gallegos won a split, 10-round decision over Jose Bernal.

Lightweight Arturo Lopez stopped Jorge Jimenez (Schmeling II) in three.

Rodrigo "Avispa" Lopez stopped Alcibiades Gallegos in three, flyweights.

Flyweight Basilio Morales knocked out Manuel Ku in two.
(4-30-88)

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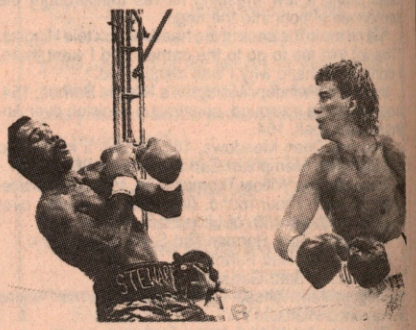
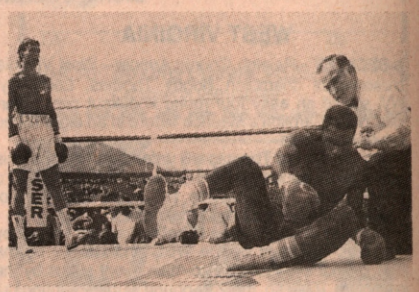


Leslie Stewart stumbles backwards after being tagged by a right from Don Lalonde during their WBC light heavyweight title bout in Trinidad.



Referee Marty Denkin counts over Leslie Stewart after the challenger was decked by Don Lalonde in the fifth round. Hometown hero Stewart beat the count, but when the pummeling continued, Denkin stopped the bout 2:34 into the round.

▶**PORT OF SPAIN**—National Stadium—Canadian **Don Lalonde** made the first defense of his WBC light heavyweight title, crushing former WBA titleholder **Leslie Stewart** for a fifth-round TKO in their scheduled 12.

California referee Marty Denkin stopped the match at 2:27 with Lalonde pummeling Stewart, who had been dropped for the second time in the bout moments before.

The knockout was the 26th for the 28-year-old Lalonde, who improved his record to 31-2 as Stewart fell to 26-3.

The 27-year-old Stewart, 173¼, struck the first damage, landing a good right that opened a small cut over Lalonde's left eye in the second round. But before the local hero could do further damage, Lalonde, 172½, scored with his trademark right and Stewart went sprawling.

Stewart came back to take the fourth round, scoring particularly well in that session's final minute, and the challenger seemed to be coming on in the fifth when another overhand right by Lalonde scored and sent Stewart to the deck again.

Again Stewart beat the count, but he staggered into the ropes and offered virtually no resistance as Lalonde clubbed him with a series of rights.

In a WBC Continental Americas title fight, Anthony Logan, 159, Jamaica, decisioned Nino Avaldino, 160, Argentina, over 12 rounds. The scoring of the judges was unanimous, George St. Aude carding 117-113, Ian Walker, 118-112, and Vernon Romney, 117-115.

Aruba's Harry Eroes refereed.

In a national welterweight title fight, Ashton Wilson, 145½, drew with Desborne Seaton, 142½, over 12, Bernard St. Louis voting for Seaton, 115-113, McKenzie Granger for Wilson, 118-114. Tommy Thomas called it 114-114.

An eight-round welterweight bout saw Verrol Liverpool, 138¼, decision Winston Malcolm, 140. Thomas scored 79-74 for Liverpool, with St. Louis going 78-75 Liverpool. St. Aude disagreed, 79-74, Malcolm.

The judges again disagreed as Ken Sharpe, 161¼, decisioned Anthony John, 164, over six. Romney and Walker went for Sharpe, 59-56 and 59-55, respectively, while referee Melchior Taylor scored for John, 59-56.

Hamil Harrikisson, 125, won a four-round decision over Michael Ettiene, 123½, in another split vote.

Promoter: Norman Samaroo.

Timekeeper: E. Young Jr.

Attendance: 8,000.

(5-29-88)

GEORGE C. BECKLES

SOUTH AMERICA

COLOMBIA

▶**BUCARAMANGA**—Vincente Diaz Romero Coliseum — In the first world title fight staged in this city, Venezuela's **Jose Sanabria** gained the vacant IBF junior featherweight title with a dramatic, five-round pounding of Moises Fuentes Rocha of Chiriguana, Colombia.

The referee intervened in the fifth when Sanabria, using a good jab and one-two combinations, pounded the Colombian into the ropes, then downed him for a mandatory count. Rocha, cut over the left eye by a left hook, did not respond when the bell signaled the beginning of Round Six due to the cut and his bad condition.

The win left Sanabria 14-3-2 with six KOs, while the loser fell to 18-2 with nine knockouts.

On the undercard, Arcelio Diaz retained his Colombian super bantamweight crown by outpointing Ezequiel Hernandez over 10 rounds.

Ruben Dario Palacios retained his Latin American super bantamweight title on a seven-round technical decision over Colombian Jaime Castello.

Eugenio Oviedo, Colombia, gained the vacant interAmerican mini flyweight crown with a 12-round decision over Uriel "Pellon" Londono.

Elvis Alvarez, Colombia, stopped Ecuador's Lincoln Salcedo, the former flyweight champion of Latin America, referee Luis E. Estrada intervening in the sixth round of a scheduled 12.

Wilson Palacios won a four-round decision over Robert Beleno in a battle between Colombian featherweights.

In a bantamweight four, Elvis Mejia outpointed Wilson Sanabriao.

Promoter: Carlos Torres/Boxing of Americas.

Attendance: 3,000 (est.).

(5-21-88)

▶**BOGOTA**—El Campin Coliseum—Eder Gonzalez, Barranquilla, knocked out Monteria's William Ruiz in the second round for the national junior welterweight title.

(5-6-88)

▶**CARTAGENA**—Alberto Castro knocked out Eudo Bermudez in the fourth round of a scrap between Colombian bantamweights.

(4-30-88)

▶**BARRANQUILLA**—La Campana Restaurant—This local venue opened its doors for boxing as Carlos Rocha, El Reten, gained the vacant Colombian bantamweight title with a unanimous, 10-round decision over Deus James Pemberti of Medellin.

The victory improved Rocha's record to 12-0-2.

Flyweight Genaro Manjarres won a unanimous, four-round decision over Jorge Hurtado.

Bantamweight Ismale de Avila outpointed Francisco De Arco over four.

Welterweight Orlando Marimon outscored Alberto Arias over four.

Unbeaten Juan Gomez closed the show, knocking out Teynaldo Cassiani in the fourth.

Matchmakers: Antonio Zabarain & Rene Pantoja.

Attendance: 120 (est.).

(5-20-88)

LUIS A. GONZALEZ V.

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

▶**VIENNA**—Stadthalle—Add another to the growing list of "world champions."

In this case, Austria's Edip Secovic fills the bill.

Secovic won the vacant WAA light middleweight title with a first-round knockout of Memphis' Brian Grant.

Grant, who had been stopped in two rounds by **John Mugabi** in January, had also been stopped in one round by Bruce Card and outpointed over 12 rounds by J.D. Dobbins. Secovic had been stopped in three rounds by France's Marc Ruocco in 1986 and had been previously stopped in the first by Dick Katende of Uganda.

Just 30 seconds into the bout, which took place before a crowd of about 1,500, Secovic hurt Grant with a left hook, then dropped him with a right. Grant got up, but was pounded and dropped again. As Grant tried to rise, he tumbled over to be counted out by referee Steve Thomasson of Oklahoma.

(6-1-88)

FINLAND

▶**TAMPERE**—Icehall—The IBF's seventh-ranked super middleweight, **Tarmo Uusivirta** of Jyvaskyla, Finland, beat All-Ireland light heavyweight champion Harry Cowap, stopping the visitor between the third and fourth rounds of a scheduled 10.

Cowap took a count in the third round, then retired in his corner due to a broken nose.

On the undercard, Tom Heiskanen, 147, Finland, improved his record to 3-0 with one KO when he unanimously outpointed elusive Ugandian Suleiman Kasule, 152, over six rounds.

Debuting Keijo Pyykko, 148, Oulu, Finland, drew with Yugoslavian Mille Markovic, 146, in an entertaining six. Pykko was the aggressor, but Markovic, 1-0-1 with one stoppage, countered with solid hooks.

Promoter: Aarno Luoma.

(5-15-88)

PETRI PAIMANDER

FRANCE

▶**PARIS**—Local Thomas N'Kalankete defended his European light welterweight title with an impressive six-round blitz of England's Lloyd Christie.

N'Kalankete sent Christie to the floor in the opening seconds of the sixth and, though the challenger got to his feet, he was counted out.

After a slow first round, Christie scored with good left hooks to N'Kalankete's body in the second. In the third, a right by Christie had the champion wobbling, and Christie admitted, "I thought I had him."

Another right by Christie hurt the 30-year-old Frenchman in the fourth, but Christie failed to capitalize and N'Kalankete started turning the tide in the next frame. Christie was hurt at the beginning of the fifth, and by the end of the round appeared to be in deep trouble. It was no illusion.

(5-26-88)

GERMANY

▶**NOTES:** Germany's heavyweight champion from September 26, 1963, to May 11, 1968, **Gerhard Zech**, turned 50 May 28. In New York, March 6, 1964, Zech lost a 10-rounder to **Ernie Terrell** and on the home circuit fought several American imports. In 1961, he outscored Ernie Cab and drew with Tommy Fields and the next year he KO'd Sherman Adams in the first round. In 1964, he was stopped in four rounds by **Zora Foley** and in 1965 he decisioned Joe Sheldon, but was then KO'd in two by Dave Bailey. He had 27 amateur and 49 professional bouts . . . **Erich Schoeppner** turned 56 June 25. As an amateur he had 276 bouts, winning 246 and drawing 14. He held the European light heavyweight title and ruled Germany at light middleweight in 1952 and at light heavy in 1955. As a pro, he won the European light heavyweight crown in 1958. Schoeppner KO'd Chuck Speiser in six rounds in 1958, outpointed Frankie Daniels and Chic Hinnant over 10 rounds in 1960, drew a 10-rounder with **Doug Jones** in 1962 and, in the following year, outpointed **Von Clay** over 10.

JACK TREE

ITALY

▶**VILLABATE**—Italy's Piero Morello took a majority, 12-round decision over Raymond Armand of France to successfully defend his European super featherweight title for the first time.

Armand put up a surprisingly good battle, forcing the action all the way as Morello used his longer reach and superior boxing skills to score with left jabs and right hooks.

(6-4-88)

▶**CAGLIARI**—Switzerland's Mauro Martelli successfully defended his European welterweight title for the fourth time, winning a split, 12-round decision over local favorite Elfisio Galici.

All scores were 117-115, two favoring Martelli, who started poorly but protected his crown with a strong showing over the bout's second half.

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Galici, who entered the fight unbeaten, applied pressure and scored with his right in the early going, opening a cut on the cheek of Martelli in the first round. But the Italian-born Martelli found his groove in the fifth and by the bout's finish, Galici had suffered a large swelling under his left eye.
(6-4-88)

UNITED KINGDOM

▶**SUNDERLAND**—Crowtree Leisure Centre—Billy Hardy, 117, Sunderland, kayoed John Hyland, 116½, Liverpool, at 1:37 of Round Two in a scheduled 12, thus retaining his British bantamweight title. When they met as amateurs exactly five years earlier, it was Hyland who won in two rounds, but on this occasion a right to the jaw by Hardy did the trick. Referee John Coyle.

Ken Foreman, 150½, Hartlepool, retained his Northern Area light middleweight title by outpointing Graeme Ahmed, 151½, South Shields, referee Arnold Bryson scoring 98½-98 after 10.

Mick Mason, 144, Craghead, drew with John Smith, 142, Liverpool, over eight twos. Referee Fred Potter.

Harry Escott, 133½, stopped Ian Honeywood, 134¼, Peterborough, referee Potter intervening at 2:59 of the fourth and final (three-min.) round after Ian had been down.

David Jules, 233, Doncaster, beat debutant Peter Fury, 213, Haslingdon, referee Gerald Watson accepting Fury's retirement at the end of Round Two in a scheduled six twos after Fury had been down.

Kevin Plant, 142, Doncaster, outpointed David Hindmarsh, 145¾, Newcastle, referee Watson casting it 60-58 after six twos.
(3-17-88)

▶**LONDON**—Latchmere Leisure Centre—Johnny Melfah, 160½, Gloucester, beat American Reggie Miller, 162, who was retired by his corner at the end of Round Five in a scheduled 10 with a cut by the left eye. Melfah was on top at that stage.

Lou Gent, 185, Streatham, stopped Abner Blackstock, 182, referee Mike Jacobs intervening at 0:36 of Round Five in a scheduled eight with Blackstock under pressure.

Carlton Warren, 168, Battersea, stopped the previously unbeaten Branko Pavlovic, 177, Bedford, referee Jacobs calling a halt at 1:05 of the sixth and final round with Pavlovic under pressure. Coming in as a substitute at only a few hours' notice, Warren was down in Round Five, but got up to fight back strongly. Nobbins came into the ring afterwards.

John Naylor, 132½, New Cross, stopped Alan Roberts, 127½, referee Jack Snipe intervening at 1:25 of Round One in a scheduled six twos with Roberts under pressure.

Joe Donohow, 132½, Walworth, outpointed Kid Sumaila, 129, Ghana, referee Snipe scoring it 59-58½ after six twos.
(3-18-88)

▶**LEICESTER**—Holiday Inn—Mark Kelly, Doncaster, stopped Warren Slaney, Leicester, referee John Keane intervening in this lightweight bout at 1:19 of Round One in a scheduled six twos after Slaney had been down.

Returning after four years' inactivity, David Maxwell, Leicester, was stopped by Mark Holden, Rotherham, referee Keane calling a halt at 0:56 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos after Maxwell had been floored.

Steve Garber, Bradford, kayoed Ted Shaw, Northwich, at 1:20 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos. An unfortunate clash of heads, with Shaw going down and cut by the right eye. Referee Keane.

Peter Brown, Bradford, outpointed Lee Woolis, Alfreton, in a light heavyweight bout, referee Keane scoring it 60-58 after six twos.
(3-21-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—Mark Reefer, 135, Bethnal Green, won the Southern Area lightweight title by stopping the holder Abdul Kareem, 133, referee Roy Francis intervening at 0:17 of Round Five in a scheduled 10 after Kareem had been down twice.

Jess Harding, 213, Potters Bar, stopped David Jules, 212, Doncaster, who came in as a sub. Referee Francis intervened at 0:58 of Round Two in a scheduled eight twos after Jules had been floored three times.

Kesem Clayton, 154, Coventry, drew with Dean Barclay, 155½, Chingford, over eight twos. Referee Tony Walker.

Dean Lynch, 125, outpointed Phil Lashley, 134, Birmingham, referee Walker scoring it 59½-58 after six.

Debutant Dave Lawrence, 178, Norwich, drew with Terry Duffus, 168, over four twos. Referee Walker.
(3-21-88)

▶**BOURNEMOUTH**—Pavilion—An unusual "No Contest" verdict by referee Denzil Lewis after a clash of heads between Mike Russell, 138, Plymouth, and Mark Purcell, Gloucester, halfway through Round One. Russell went down and was dazed when he rose. This was an eliminator for the Western Area light welter title.

Paul Wesley, 159½, Birmingham, kayoed Johnny Williamson, 157, Gloucester, at 0:59 of Round Two. Referee Nick White.

Paul Moylett, 133½, Bristol, outpointed Dean Dickenson, 139½, Sheffield, referee Lewis scoring it 60-58 after six twos.

Mark Singh, 135¼, Gloucester, stopped Barry North, 144½, Mansfield, referee White calling a halt after only 38 seconds of the opening round in a scheduled six with North under pressure.

Jim Beckitt, 159½, Woodford, kayoed Steve Huxtable, 159½, Barnstaple, at 1:52 of Round Three in a scheduled four.

Andy Catesby, 158, Bournemouth, stopped Tony Cloak, 164, Bideford, the referee intervening at 1:16 of Round One after Cloak had been down.
(3-15-88)

▶**SOLIHULL**—Midlands Sporting Club—Former British welter champion Kostas Petrou, 150, came back after brief inactivity to outpoint Dave McCabe, 146½, Gartcosh, referee John Coyle scoring it 78½-78 after eight. The decision was disputed by McCabe.

Gary De Roux, 126¾, Peterborough, outpointed Russell Davison, 128, Salford, referee Jim Pridding scoring it 79-78 after eight.

Tony Swift, 139, Solihull, kept his unbeaten record by outpointing Ron Shinkwin, 140, Borehamwood, referee Coyle casting it 78½-77½ after eight twos.

Patrick Kamy, 129, Highgate, beat Craig Windsor, 128, Coatbridge, who was retired by his corner at the end of Round Four in a scheduled eight twos.

John Foreman, 176½, Birmingham, outpointed John Fairnbairn, 180, Blyth, referee Pridding scoring it 59½-58½ over six twos.
(3-16-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—Rocky Kelly, Acton, retained his Southern Area welterweight title by stopping David Dent, Camden Town, referee Sid Nathan intervening in Round Eight of a scheduled 10 when Dent had a swelling by the right eye. Kelly looked in front at that stage.

Johnny Graham, 175¼, St. Pancras, stopped Chris Galloway, 175¼, Penge, referee Ritchie Davis calling a halt at 2:31 of Round Six in a scheduled eight when Galloway was cut by the right eye.

Lennie Howard, 185¾, Chelsford, beat Sean Daly, Preston, 190, referee Paddy Sower intervening four seconds before the end of the sixth and final round when Daly was cut by the left eye. Unlucky for Daly, who looked ahead.

Desmond Grainger, 148¾, made it three in a row by stopping Glyn Mitchell, 148, Plymouth, who came in as a substitute, referee Sower intervening at 1:56 of Round Five in a scheduled six twos after Mitchell had been down.

Steve West, 154, Fulham, stopped Frank Mobbs, 150, referee Sower calling a halt at 0:29 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos after Mobbs had been floored twice.

Tony Collins, Yateley, 157, outpointed Rob Thomas, 158, Gloucester, over four twos, referee Sower scoring it 40-38.

Brian Robinson, 154, Hastings, outpointed Stan King, 165, Forest Hill, referee Sower casting it 60-58 after six twos.

Cornelius Carr, 155, Middlesbrough, stopped Darren Parker, 158, Leicester, referee Sid Nathan intervening at 1:59 of Round One in a scheduled six after Parker had been down.
(3-24-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—Mo Hussein, West Ham, 134, kept his Commonwealth lightweight title by beating Brian Roche, 132½, who retired with a broken right hand at the end of Round Five in a scheduled 12.

Keith Ferdinand, 229, Bedworth, made it nine in a row by stopping Denroy Bryan, 212, Swindon, referee Paddy Sower intervening at 2:37 of Round Two in a scheduled six after Bryan had been floored.

Nick Meloscia, Gloucester, beat Roy Rowlands, 146½, West Ham, referee Sower calling a halt at 1:45 of Round One when Rowlands was cut by the left eye, which could have been caused by an accidental clash of heads.
(3-29-88)

▶**STOKE**—Kings Hall—They say truth is stranger than fiction, and this was certainly the case when Welsh-born Robert Dickie won the newly created WBC international super featherweight title by beating Hengky Gun, Indonesia, referee Rolando Barravecchio intervening at 1:58 of Round Five after consulting with the ringside doctor.

A year earlier, Dickie was involved in a car crash and sustained a broken back and injuries to the head. His recovery and his determination to pursue his career are nothing short of miraculous.

Dickie put up the performance of his life and looked comfortably ahead when the premature stoppage came.

Ossie Maddis, 150, Manchester, outpointed Wally Swift, 151½, Solihull, referee Paul Thomas scoring it 79-78 after eight.

Gypsy John Fury, 243, Haslingden, outpointed Ian Priest, 212, Alfreton, referee Thomas casting it 60-58 after six twos

Howard Brown, 125, Birmingham, outpointed Jimmy Lee, 126, Blackburn, over four.

Richard Joyce, 135, Burton, kayoed Joey Dee, 138, Derby, who was counted out by referee Terry O'Connor at 0:55 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos.

Harry Armstrong, 127, Manchester, stopped Steve Bowles, 129, Sheffield, referee O'Connor intervening at 1:39 of Round Five in a scheduled six twos after Bowles had been down.
(3-29-88)

▶**WOLVERHAMPTON**—Sporting Club—A comeback to end all comebacks. Down three times, Colin Lynch, 128, Coventry, got up on each occasion to fight back strongly and eventually knock out George Jones, 128, Telford, who was counted out by referee John Coyle at 1:13 of Round Seven in a scheduled eight twos.

Lynch was also cut by the right eye, but he makes a habit of coming back from the verge of defeat, having been decked 12 times in his short career, yet still winning four of his seven bouts.

Andrew Pybus, 139, Birmingham, stopped Eddie King, Doncaster, referee Bryan Arnott intervening at 0:26 of Round One in a scheduled six twos with King under pressure.

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Rocky Burton, 217, Bedworth, outpointed Mick Cordon, 203, Doncaster, over six twos, winning every round.

Paul Bowen, 131, Wednesbury, beat Mark Anthony, 134, Doncaster, referee Arnott calling a halt after both men had fallen through the ropes, with Anthony unable to continue after injuring his left ankle.

Darren Jones, 175, Doncaster, didn't lose a round, outpointing Joe Frater, 172, Grimsby, on referee Coyle's card by 60-57 after six.

(3-22-88)

▶**SHEFFIELD**—City Hall—Glyn Rhodes, 138, Sheffield, outpointed substitute Nigel Senior, 135, Nottingham, referee Mickey Vann scoring it 79½-77½ after eight. Senior was down in Round Seven.

Paul Marriott, 142, Sheffield, outpointed Ricky Maxwell, 146, Nottingham, referee Mickey Vann (outside the ring) scoring it 59½-59 after six. Triallist ref Nicky Kennedy officiated inside the ring.

Lambay Kayani, 128½, Sheffield, outpointed Des Gargano, 126, Manchester, who came in as a substitute, Scoreline 60-57½ after six. Referee Keith Garner.

Nigel Bradley, 134, stopped Darren Derby, 133, Bolton, referee Garner calling a halt at 0:39 of Round One in a scheduled six when Derby sustained an eye injury.

(3-23-88)

▶**GLASGOW**—St. Andrews Sporting Club—Scottish lightweight champion Robert Harkin, 140, Helensborough, confirmed a previous win by beating Northern Area champion Jeff Decker, 140, referee Arnold Bryson intervening at 2:50 of Round One in a scheduled eight after Decker had been decked.

Scottish bantam champion Donnie Hood, 120, kayoed Nigel Crook, 120¼, Chorley, who was counted out by referee Bryson at 0:31 of Round Two in a scheduled six.

James Conley, 151¼, Bradford, kayoed Mike McKenzie, 151, Perth, who was counted out by referee Len Mullen at 1:36 of Round Three in a scheduled six.

Referee Len Mullen disqualified Adam Muir, 139¾, Greenock, and Nigel Bradley, 137, Sheffield, at 1:35 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos. Bradley was down in Round One. Both men had been warned for holding in rounds two and three, respectively, but it had been a lively contest and the verdict took a lot of fans by surprise.

(3-28-88)

▶**EVESHAM**—Sporting Club—Nick Meloscia, 141, Gloucester, stopped G.W. Gully 143, Birmingham, referee Terry O'Connor intervening at 0:45 of the sixth and final (two-min.) round after Gully had been floored.

Dean Bramhald, 139, Doncaster, drew with Western Area champion Frankie Lake, 140, Bournemouth, over eight. Referee John Coyle.

Peter Bowen, 140, Wednesbury, outpointed Steve Taggart, 139, Birmingham, referee Coyle casting it 58½-57½ after six twos. Brown was down in Round One, Taggart three times in rounds two and three.

Mickey Murray, 150; Doncaster, was a successful debutant with a kayo win over another first-timer in Phil Carr, 146, Birmingham, at 1:45 of Round Two in a scheduled four twos. Referee O'Connor.

Jeff Pugh, 140, Torquay, outpointed Cecil Branch, 142, Wolverhampton, ref O'Connor scoring it 59½-57½ after six twos.

(3-23-88)

▶**BRADFORD**—Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club—David Bacon, 145, Alfreton, avenged a previous defeat by outpointing Dave Kettlewell, 145, Leeds, referee Ron Hackett casting it 78½-78 after eight twos.

Frank Grant, Bradford, made it five in a row by outpointing Dave Thomas, 166, Hull, referee Phil Cowsill scoring it 59-58 after six twos.

Adrian Din, 148½, Alfreton, outpointed Steve Harwood, 147, Batley, referee Cowsill casting it 59½-58 after six twos.

Tony Foster, 130, Hull, outpointed Darrel Pettit, 129, Alfreton, referee Cowsill's card showing 60-58 after six twos.

(3-28-88)

▶**WEMBLEY**—Arena—(supports to Vaca-Honeyghan) Jim McDonnell, 131½, kayoed American Joel Segura, 129, who was counted out by referee Roy Francis at 1:55 of Round Seven of a scheduled 10. He had been down in the previous round.

Mark Kaylor, 175¾, stopped American Roy Saffold, 176½, referee Francis intervening at 2:37 of Round Two in a scheduled 10 with Saffold under pressure.

British welter champ **Kirland Laing**, 155½, outpointed American Sam Floyd, referee Francis scoring 79-78 after eight.

Errol McDonald, 144, stopped Mexican Ramon Nunez, 141, referee Tony Walker calling a halt at 2:00 of Round Three after being floored in Round Four to kayo Eric Cardouza, 188¼, Daventry, at 2:58 of Round Five in a scheduled six. Referee, Walker. A good win for Hylton, now in his 30th year.

(3-29-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—**Noel Quarless,** 221, Liverpool, outpointed former WBA champion **John Tate**, 281, referee Dave Parris scoring it 98-97½ after 10.

Tate protested the result, which looked fair.

Errol Christie, 165, kayoed Andy Wright, 167½, Tooting, who was counted out by referee Parris at 1:22 of Round Two in a scheduled eight. Wright came in as a substitute and actually floored Christie in the opening round. But he wasted a lot of energy trying to land a finisher. Christie recovered, and Wright was counted out on his knees.

Steve Pollard, 126½, Hull, outpointed Scott Durham, 129, Pontypridd, referee Nick White scoring it 79-78½ after eight twos. It was Durham's first defeat.

Neil Haddock, 135, Llanelli, outpointed Richard Adams, 140, Basildon, referee White casting it 59-58½ after six twos.

Joe McKenzie, 163½, Newport, stopped Keith Haliwell, 163, Wigan, referee White calling a halt at 1:11 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos after Haliwell had been down.

Paul Gadney, 136, Woolwich, outpointed Nigel Senior, 133, Nottingham, referee Francis casting 59½-57½ after six.

(3-30-88)

▶**MIDDLESBROUGH**—Marton Country Club—Graham O'Malley, 123, Middlesbrough, outpointed Des Gargano, 119, Manchester, referee Arnold Bryson scoring it 80-76½ after eight twos.

John Smith, 138, Liverpool, beat Paul Seddon, 143½, Nottingham, referee Bryson intervening at 0:35 of Round Four in a scheduled eight twos when Seddon was cut by the left eye.

Humphrey Harrison, 144, Manchester, stopped David Hindmarsh, 142, Newcastle, referee Gerald Watson calling a halt at 1:36 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos when Hindmarsh had been floored twice and was cut by the left eye.

Russell Barker, 174, Nottingham, stopped Darren McKenna, 175, Alfreton, referee Watson intervening at 1:10 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos after McKenna had been down twice.

(3-29-88)

▶**BIRMINGHAM**—Arden Sporting Club—After two years' inactivity Tony Britton, 156, Lewisham, outpointed Seamus Casey, 160, Alfreton, over eight twos. Referee Jim Pridding.

Sean Heron, 163, Edinburgh, outpointed Steve Acquilina, 162, Wolverhampton, over eight twos. Referee Pridding.

Michael Howell, 134, Nottingham, outpointed Dean Dickinson, 135, Sheffield, over six twos. Referee Larry Thompson.

Gary Dyson, 149, Penge, stopped Paul Boyce, 145, Wednesbury, Thompson calling a halt in Round Two of a scheduled six twos.

(3-28-88)

▶**BIRMINGHAM**—Aston Villa Leisure Centre—British super featherweight champion **Pat Cowdell,** 132, kayoed Dave Savage, 132½, at 1:33 of Round Five in a scheduled eight-round non-title affair. Referee Paul Thomas.

It was originally billed as a title defense for Cowdell against John Doherty, but the latter had to pull out with a back injury. The Board of Control turned down an application for the bout with Savage to be an official title fight.

Former British welter champ Kostas Petrou, 149, stopped Gary Somerville, Birmingham, 149, referee Thomas intervening at 1:40 of Round Six in a scheduled eight with Somerville under pressure. Nobbins came into the ring.

Hugh Forde, 131¾, Birmingham, kept his unbeaten record by stopping Rudi Valentino, 133, Hanwell, referee Larry Thompson not bothering to take up the count at 2:25 of Round Two in a scheduled six after Valentino had been down for the third time.

John Foreman, 180, Birmingham, kayoed David Jono, 182, referee Thompson counting him out at 2:06 of Round One in a scheduled four.

Peter Crook, 142, Chorley, outpointed Ronnie Campbell, 142½, referee Thompson casting it 79-78 after eight twos.

READ THE RING

▶**BASILDON**—Festival Hall—Trevor Smith, 146½, Harlow, made it 12 without defeat by outpointing Roy Callaghan, 148½, Holloway, referee Larry O'Connell scoring it 79-77 after eight.

James Cook, 167¼, Peckham, stopped Cliff Curtis, 171, referee O'Connell calling a halt at 2:20 of Round Four in a scheduled eight when Curtis was cut by both eyes and under pressure.

Theo Marius, 156½, Hackney, kayoed Scottish champion Tommy McCallum, 156, who was counted out by referee Tony Walker at 2:27 of Round Five in a scheduled six.

Kevin Plant, 144, Doncaster, stopped Andy Cox, 142, Woodham Ferrers, referee Walker calling a halt at 0:34 of Round Two after Cox had been down.

Steve Griffith, 137½, Finchley, stopped, Dean Dickenson, 141, Derby, referee Walker intervening at 1:32 of Round Two after Dickenson had been floored three times.

Richard Bustin, 172, Norwich, stopped Steve Conway, 169, New Cross, referee Walker stopping the action at 1:44 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos with Conway under pressure.

(4-5-88)

▶**GLASGOW**—Plaza Ballroom—Jim Moffatt, 136, Kilmarnock, outpointed substitute Paul Charters, 135, Newcastle, referee Billy Rafferty scoring it 79½-78½ after eight.

Joe Mullen, 117½, Irvine, outpointed Ronnie Stephenson, 121, Doncaster, referee Rafferty casting it 80-76½, after eight.

Darren Mount, 135½, Sheffield, outpointed Johnny Walker, 133, Kilmarnock, referee Arnold Bryson casting it 60-58 after six.

John Fairbairn, 196, Blyth, stopped debutant Jim Williamson, 206½, Irvine, referee Bryson calling a halt at 1:54 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos with Williamson under pressure.

Kid Sumali, London, 122, drew with Mark Robertson, 116, Kilbirmie, over six. Referee Rafferty.

(4-11-88)

▶**BRISTOL**—Thornbury Leisure Centre—Paul Wesley, 160, Birmingham, stopped Joe McKenzie, 167, Newport, referee Denzil Lewis (in charge of all three bouts) intervening in Round Six of a scheduled eight twos after McKenzie had been down twice.

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▶**MALANG**—Taufix Bathi, the IBC's No. 4 junior flyweight, 108¼, took a unanimous duke over Aries Papuling, also 108¼, in eight.

Suitkno, 126, decisioned Socrates, also 126, in six.

Promoter: Eddy Pirrih.

(2-19-88)

▶**PONTIAK**—**Ellyas Pical**, the IBF junior bantamweight champion, 113, gamely attacked taller Colombian Raul Diaz, 115, dropped him in the 14th round and won a onesided decision to retain his crown before some 5,000 partisan fans.

Pical, a sturdy southpaw, was stalking the challenger and piled up points more easily than expected.

Scoring: Urial Aguilera Riveno (Colombia) 146-139, Jopie Limahelu (Indonesia) 145-138 and Clive Creedy (Australia) 144-143, all in the defending champ's favor. Herbert Minn, Hawaii, was the non-scoring referee.

It was the 28-year-old Pical's first defense since he regained the IBF throne by outpointing taller Korean Tae-Il Chung on October 17 last. Ellyas improved his log to 17-3 with 11 knockouts. Diaz, 30, slipped to 33-4-1 with 21 KOs.

Pical pocketed $53,000 to $20,000 for Diaz.

Noce Luckman, 125½, kept his Indonesian featherweight title by a unanimous nod over Daud Jordan, 125¾, in 12.

Francisco Lisboa, the IBC's top junior middleweight contender, 152¾, impressively stopped Australian champ Terry Roberts, 148¼, in the third session of a scheduled 10.

Filipino Leon Collins, 124¼, proved too aggressive and effective for Liem Tian Hong, 124, copping a unanimous duke in 10.

Promoter: Anton Sihotang.

(2-20-88)

▶**SURABAYA**—Muhammad Juhari, 134½, successfully kept his Indonesian lightweight crown by taking a unanimous decision over Bisenti Santoso, 135, in 12.

He repeated a decisive win over the tough Santoso, following his previous victory on September 20 last. It was a good fight, but both had been beaten by Sakad Petchyndee in their quest for the OPBF lightweight throne — Juhari on points in February, 1987, and Bisenti via a 99-second kayo last July. Juhari, 30, is 19-2-4 with seven kayoes. Bisenti fell to 9-7.

Twenty-year-old Ganitala, 129, seized the vacant Indonesian junior lightweight crown as he demolished Taurus Clay, 127, with a smashing right in the fifth round of a scheduled 12. The national title had been vacated with Hengky Gun winning the WBC international throne. Ganitala is 8-0 with four kayoes.

Udin, the national junior flyweight champ ranked ninth by the WBA, 109¾, took a unanimous decision over Little Pono, 111½, in eight.

Promoter: Lukman Hakim & Adi Budimartono.

(3-1-88)

▶**SURABAYA**—Robby Rahangmetan, 121½, defeated Kace Tomasoa, 124½, by a unanimous decision in eight.

Yudi Priyanto, the IBC's No. 2 junior bantie, 113, won over Shita Tabalubun, 114¾, in eight.

Gim Suryaman, the number two mini-flyweight of Indonesia, 107½, was held to a draw by Nana Suhana, 105½, in eight.

(3-15-88)

▶**JAKARTA**—Ippo Gala, 111½, won the vacant Indonesian flyweight title as he was awarded a majority decision (117-111, 116-112 and 114-114) over Alex Rabadeta, 111¾, in 12.

Bongguk Kindy, 139¼, also became the new champ by stopping Linus Aron, 139½, in the fourth round of a 12-round eliminator.

Robert Azumah, 146¾, was the third new titlist, gaining the vacant national welterweight crown via a majority decision over Agus Wahab, 146¾, in 12.

Promoter: Rizaf Thaib.

(4-11-88)

▶**JAKARTA**—Nurhuda, 121½, wrested the WBC international title in the super bantamweight class as he mixed up gamely with Filipino defending champ Joe Hiyas, 121¾, to be awarded a split, but popular decision in 12.

Scoring: referee Amek Hon Kongthong (Thailand) 118-115, Nurhuda; John Phillips (Indonesia) 117-110; and Vincente Valdez (Philippines) 119-112, Hiyas.

Nurhuda bloodied the left eye of Hiyas in the ninth round and his attacks were shown in the remaining rounds. Nurhuda, born July 22, 1965, is 15-3-2. Hiyas, Papa Sarreal's boy, had acquired the WBC junior title by outscoring the OPBF ruler Hi-Yun Chung, Korea, in the previous year. But Joe, 27, impaired to 23-6-2, reportedly. The dethroned champ received a purse of $32,000 and the local favorite just $1,800.

Francisco Lisboa, 154, showed his superior speed and disposed of Ricky Pontoh, 153¼, in the eighth round of a scheduled 12 to acquire the vacant Indonesian junior middleweight title.

Ryantoha, the IBC's No. 3 bantie, 122¾, unanimously decisioned Filipino Hilbert Aragon, 123¾, in 10 fast rounds.

Promoter: Yorris Reawayai.

(4-14-88)

▶**YOGYAKARTA**—Unbeaten Ganitala retained his national junior lightweight crown, taking a unanimous decision (116-110, 117-112 and 115-111) in 12.

Flyweight Little Pono was held to a technical draw by Suyono Clash with an accidental butt and their bad bleeding in the second round of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Yongki Susanto.

(4-16-88)

▶**MALANG**—Gajayana Stadium—Thai southpaw Napa Kiatwanchai, 105, showed his ringcraft and sharpness in keeping his WBC international title in the strawweight division by a lopsided, but majority decision over less experienced Gim Suryaman, 104¼, in 12.

Scoring: Anet Hongthongkamp (Thailand) 120-104, Salvador Valdez (Philippines) 118-113 and Jaffar (Indonesia) 114-114. The last scorecard was jeered even by the Indonesian crowd. It looked so onesided as Napa gave a lesson to the overmatched 18-year-old challenger. Napa, 20, is 23-0-1 with four kayoes. Suryaman is 7-2.

John Arief, Indonesian strawweight champ, 104¾, kept his throne by beating Nico Thomas, 103¼, on points in 12.

National super bantamweight champ Little Holmes, 121½, unanimously decisioned veteran Monod, 120, to defend his crown in 12.

In a grudge rematch of ex-WBC junior champs, Pulo Sugaray, 129, turned the tables by stopping Thai puncher Chor Haphalang, 128, in the eighth and final round.

Pulo became the first WBC junior titlist by beating the OPBF ruler Gerron Poras, Philippines, in March of 1987, but yielded the throne to Haphalang on a fifth-round knockout last September. Chor was dethroned by Hengky Gun this January in Indonesia.

(4-16-88)

JOE KOIZUMI, P. SETIJADI LAKSONO, AND ABBAS PRABOWO

JAPAN

▶**OKINAWA**—Okinawa City Gymnasium—An eliminator to decided a new Japanese junior flyweight champion took place following the relinquishment of Hideyuki Ohashi who will have a crack at the WBC throne against "Korean Hawk" **Jung-Koo Chang** June 27.

Tomohiro Kiyuna, 106¾, caught a veteran named Kenji Ono, also 106¾, with a countering straight right, knocked him out at 2:27 of the 10th and final round, and seized the vacant crown. Kiyuna had lost his national throne to Ohashi last January and he regained it via a fine stoppage. Kiyuna is 21-3 with nine knockouts. Ono fell to 17-11 with seven kayoes.

(5-1-88)

▶**HIMEJI**—Himeji Welfare Gymnasium—African import Douglas Kinoshita, 127¾, made his debut in Japan by polishing off Kazuo Osamu, a switch-hitting veteran at 126½, at 3:04 of the opening session in a scheduled 10. Douglas is 16-2-1 with six kayoes.

Hidekazu Kakehashi, 104¼, outpointed Noriaki Tanaka, 103¾, in eight.

Takehito Nakano, 129, won an upset decision from Bruce Kyoda, Tokyo, 130, in eight.

(5-3-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Having been dethroned by Chiaki Kobayashi and kayoed by Tadashi Shimabukuro, ex-Japanese bantamweight champ Naoto Takahashi, 121½, engaged in a comeback go and displayed an impressive demolition of Thai Sombutryou Singsamang, 121¼, at 3:09 of the second round in a scheduled 10. Takahashi, 20, pinned the Thai to the ropes with a fusillade of punches and referee Tezaki called a halt.

The winner is 13-2 with nine knockouts. Sombutryod, 28, impaired to 31-9-1 with 27 kayoes. Despite his good record, he looked too slow to cope with the Japanese footworker.

(5-5-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Japanese welterweight champ Hiroyuki Yoshino, 147, showed his devastating left hooks and demolished Hitoshi Kamiyama, the top contender, at 3:09 of the third session in a scheduled 10. Yoshino had dethroned Takao Sakamoto on the undercard of the Mike Tyson vs. Tony Tubbs card via a stunning kayo and collected another victim, a stablemate of the former champ, in admirable fashion. Yoshino is 9-3-1 with six kayoes. Kamiyama fell to 8-1-1 with three KOs.

Unbeaten prospect Takeyuki Akagi, 133¼, was befuddled by the durability and trickiness of veteran Koki Higashi, 135, but eventually caught him with a solid right, flattening him at 2:25 of the seventh round in a scheduled 10.

Akagi, piloted by ex-world flyweight champ Shoji Oguma, was formerly an amateur Japanese champ and upped his log to 4-0 with as many kayoes. Higashi, the JBC's #4 lightie, is 10-13-1 with just a knockout.

Yoshifumi Kitajima, 147, decisioned Tatsuhiro Kawabata, 145½, in eight.

(5-9-88)

▶**WAKAYAMA**—Wakayama Prefectural Gymnasium—Tegsuo Kase, a local favorite at 130, floored Shoji Nishida, 135, in the opening session, and stopped him at 1:40 of the sixth round in a scheduled 10. Kase is 7-4-1 with three kayoes.

(5-15-88)

▶**AKITA**—Akita City Gymnasium—Shigeru Fudai, ex-national junior lightweight champ under the name of Tiger Michigami, 130, scored his persistent body attacks, weakened lanky opponent Lancer Nakamura, also 130, and won a unanimous decision in 10.

Fudai is 19-8 with 14 knockouts. Nakamura is 10-6-1 with a kayo.

(5-16-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Japanese featherweight champ Mitsuru Sugiya, 126, showed a lethal left uppercut to the chin of Yasuo Jinde, also 126, and disposed of him at 2:14 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10. It was Sugiya's second defense since retaining his title in an eliminator with Jinde last August. The champ bettered his log to 26-3 with 19 kayoes. Jinde fell to 10-4-2 with nine knockouts.

Tiger Asakura, an unbeaten Filipino lefty, 130, amazed the crowd with a beautiful knockout of Mexican Dony (Escamilla) Yamashita, also 130, at 2:41 of the first round in a supporting 10. Tiger, a son of ex-Orient junior lightweight boss Oscar Reyes, looks very promising with his sharp punching and quick reflexes.

Shigeru Okabe, the winner of Novice King tourney of this year, 116, barely ran his unbeaten log to 8-0 with five kayoes as he was awarded a split decision over Yasue Yakushiji, 115½, in six.

(5-16-88)

▶**OSAKA**—Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium—Elongated Takeshi Yamato, Japanese middleweight champ, 157½, failed to showed an expected kayo, but won a lopsided decision (100-90, 100-91 and 100-92) in 10. Yamato, a good upright stylist, is 6-1-2 with four knockouts. Kanenami, a late substitute for Kenji Kubo, proved no match for the much faster champ and dropped to 5-6-2 with four KOs.

Shinji Ozawa, 115, floored lefty speedster Takahito Kageyama, also 115, twice and stopped him at 2:07 of the fifth round in a scheduled eight. Ozawa, the JBC's sixth-ranked bantie, is 8-5 with six kayoes. Kageyamay fell to 3-2 with two KOs.

(5-19-88)

▶**TAGAWA**—Tagawa City Martial Arts Hall—Korean lefty Tae-Il Chung, 114¾, kept his OPBF junior bantamweight title as he showed his sharpness and strength in demolishing a Japanese challenger named Kazuto Kurahachi, 115, at 1:13 of the sixth round in a scheduled 12. The 5'8" Chung landed accurate punches to the shorter foe and piled up points steadily. Chung battered him with a volley of punches and his right uppercut to the button collapsed him flat. Chung, former IBF world champ, is 24-3 with 10 kayoes. Kurahachi, a local favorite, fell to 13-4 with nine kayoes.

Yoshitaka Mizuo, 121, unanimously decisioned Koichi Aramaki, 122, in 10.

(5-22-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Taiwanese Rocky (Ming-Cha) Ling, 105, scored a shutout decision over Hisashi Nakatomi, a slower rival, 106, and decked his pro debut in six.

Ling, 20, registered a fine amateur record of 58-5 with 30 stoppages prior to entering the paid ranks. He belongs to Rocky Gym managed by Yukinori Hiraki.

Lefty Manabu Saijo, 121, returned to ring warfare after a long layoff and disposed of Ryuji Okawa, 122, at 3:02 of the third round in a scheduled six. Saijo, former winner of the East Japan Novice King tourney, is 5-0 with four kayoes.

(5-23-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Akinobu Hiranaka, 140, tabbed his eighth consecutive defense, all but one by

kayo, as he swarmed over Seiji Nagasawa, 140, and finished him at 2:47 of the first round in a scheduled 10. Hiranaka, the WBC's 10th-ranked contender, is 15-0 with 14 knockouts. If he does not reveal his vulnerable jaw, he will continue keeping his national title for a long time.

Yoshinori Nishizawa, 160, stopped Manabu Hiura, 160, at 2:14 of the second round in a scheduled six. Nishizawa is 5-0-1 with three kayoes.
(5-31-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Six-foot-one Nobuyuki Tabata, Japanese junior middleweight champ, 155, had a tough time due to the toughness and fighting spirit of Sang-Shik Kim, Korean #3 welterweight, also 155, but sank him at 0:47 of the ninth round in a scheduled 10.

Tabata's right was a haymaker. He raised his log to 23-6-1 with 21 knockouts. The loser is 10-5-2 with five kayoes.

The semifinal 10 saw a furious give-and-take affair with Minoru Mitsui, the JBC's eighth-ranked junior featherweight, 125¾, being awarded a TKO win over lefty Keiji Koizumi (no relation to this reporter), 125¼, at 1:47 of the fourth canto.

Koizumi floored the wide open rival with a southpaw left in the first round, but suffered a knockdown and four standing counts prior to the halt. The referee couldn't stop the fight as the glass-jawed Koizumi often had him at bay.

Mitsui is 8-2-2 with six knockouts. Koizumi fell to 9-6-1 with four kayoes.

Lefty prospect Kazuhiro Shimamoto, 112, showed a lackluster performance, but won a unanimous nod over Masami Seo, 111¾, in six. The former All Japan high school champ is 6-0 with just a kayo.
(6-2-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Shunichi Nakajima, Japanese junior bantamweight champ, 115, didn't show his usual whirlwind attacks but outpunched Shigenobu Nakamasa, 114, stopping him at 0:29 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10. It was Nakajima's first defense since he seized the vacant national throne by decisioning Koji Nishikawa last March. Nakajima is 16-4 with 10 kayoes. Nakamasa fell to 9-5-1 with seven KOs.

Shinichiro Hiraiwa, 118, stopped Tamotsu Hattori, 118, at 0:37 of the seventh round in a scheduled eight. The victor is 7-4 with three KOs.
(6-7-88)

▶**SHIMIZU**—Suzuyo Gymnasium—Shark Ishihara, former winner of the All Japan Novice King tourney, 141¼, earned a majority decision over Tadafumi Miura, 140¼, in 10.

The scoresheets were shameful enough, 100-100, 100-99 and 98-97. No matter how close the fight was, obviously at least two judges failed to score the rounds. They seemingly could not see which boxer was more effectively fighting throughout the contest.

Arrow Imura, 133, stopped Masashige Ishii, 132¼, at 1:49 of the opening session in a scheduled six.

Minoru Amano, 134½, halted Jiro Kashiwabara, 134½, at 0:43 of the sixth and final round.
(6-11-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Japanese lightweight champ Iwao Otomo, 135, exchanged hot rallies with Hideya Yamashiro, the top contender, 135, and wore him down to finish it at 2:05 of the sixth round of a scheduled 10. Otomo registered his seventh defense since he captured the national thrown via an upset ninth-round TKO over Cheyenne Yamamoto in January of the previous year. Otomo showed his superior stamina and durability in mixing up toe-to-toe from the start to the end. Otomo is 17-1-1 with 15 knockouts. Yamashiro, who boasted of his stronger power, dropped to 11-3 with seven kayoes.

Six rounders: The Prize tournaments by Japanese ranked boys are fought to entertain the crowd.

Taisetsu (Hogan) Noguchi, 134¼, knocked out former national featherweight champ Tatsunari Hisahiro, 134½, at 2:16 of the third round. Noguchi is 7-3 with seven knockouts. Hisahiro fell to 12-11 with 10 KOs.

Noboru Godai, formerly fighting as Toshihiko (Kenyu) Tanaka, 134½, stopped lefty Minoru Kujo, 135, at 2:06 of the third session.

Soichi Shimamura, 115, eked out a majority nod from Tatsuya Sugi, 113¾, in six. Shimamura is 9-2 with four KOs.

Seisaku Miyagi, 115, scored a shutout decision over Masakatsu Aikata, 115, in six. Miyagi is 7-0-3.

Ryuichi Suhara and Hidehito Fukui, both 108, fought to a draw in six.
(6-13-88)

▶**NOTES:** Korean Hawk **Jung-Koo Chang** will make his 15th defense against Hideyuki Ohashi at Korakuen Hall June 27. It will be Chang's first defense abroad and he is favored to keep his title against the ex-Japanese champ whom he previously stopped via a fifth-round stoppage in December, 1986. Jung Koo, 25, has scored a much better record of 35-1 with 15 kayoes, compared to 8-2 with four KOs for the 23-year-old Ohashi.

On July 9, Mexican **Gilberto Roman** will defend his WBC super flyweight title against a hard-punching Nipponese named Yoshiyuki Uchida in Kawagoe City. Uchida, 29, has just a puncher's chance with his 21-2-1 record including 19 kayoes. Despite his credentials, he has been neglected by experts and fans due to his lack of finesse and speed. The champ Roman, 26, lately recaptured the throne by onesidedly beating Sugar Rojas in Miami April 8. If he is successful in keeping the title against Uchida, he will come to Japan to face unbeaten prospect Kiyoshi Hatanaka September 4 in Nagoya.

Carlos Elliot, the OPBF junior middleweight champ, will go to Indonesia to take his title on the line against Francisco Lisboa in Sumatra on July 2. It will be his second defense since he gained the vacant OPBF throne by stopping Jae-Hyon Yuh in nine furious rounds in April of the last year. On June 5, a couple of timekeepers hurt the reputation of the Japanese boxing fraternity by sounding the gong at 2:28 of the 12th and final round in the WBC strawweight title bout. Then Japanese champ Hiroki Ioka was close to a kayo by the furious attacks of Thai challenger Napa Kiatwanchai and he was saved by the bell. All the TV watchers, in Japan and Thailand as well, got angry at the unfair patriotism or mistake.

The JBC (Japan Boxing Commission) decided to suspend the timekeepers for a month and gave severe warnings to the local commission office. The Commission also strongly recommended the manager and promoter of Ioka to stage a rematch soon. Truly it was one of the most notorious incidents in Japanese fistic history.

JOE KOIZUMI

KOREA

▶**SUANBO**—Venezuelan veteran **Fulgencio Obelmejias**, 168, captured the WBA super middleweight title from Korean **Chong-Pal Park**, also 168, as he dropped the defending titleholder thrice and won a onesided decision in 12 hot frames.

It was the 28-year-old Park's second defense since becoming the WBA's first titleholder in the newly created class and a grudge fight for Park as the Korean had traveled abroad only to be finished by Obelmejias in a 1981 match in Caracas. But the jab and longer reach of Obelmejias still proved a great nuisance to Park in the rematch.

New Yorkers Nicasio Drake (117-109) and Barbara Perez (114-110) along with Miami's Stuart Winston (115-110) all voted for Obelmejias, who was demolished by **Marvin Hagler** in 1981 and again in 1982. Since, he has campaigned mainly in Europe as a light heavyweight, losing his Latin American championship to **Leslie Stewart**, who stopped him in four rounds.

But the 31-year-old Latin showed he wasn't as faded as Korean experts expected, scoring with a stinging jab that bounced back the head of Park, who had iced 39 of his previous 46 victims.

Park concentrated on the body and kept things close until an accidental butt started his skull bleeding in the seventh round. From then, Obelmejias dominated, though he was warned for low blows by referee Sean Kurtin of Chicago.

The recess after the eighth round was much longer than the ruled minute as the KBC physician checked Park's gash at the right optic as Obelmejias waited, ready to fight. As if protesting against the prolonged rest period, the Venezuelan attacked hard and sent Park to the deck with a wicked left hook. The crowd didn't think Park could get up, but the game Korean stood.

Obelmejias swarmed all over him and landed obviously low blows. Park knelt and claimed to be fouled, returning to his corner where he stayed, refusing to fight. After this interruption, which lasted 65 seconds, Obelmejias landed a fusilade of punches, including several more low blows, and Park barely lasted the round.

Obelmejias showed his best in Round Nine as he floored the groggy titleholder twice, first with a one-two, then with a left hook. The third man could have stopped it there, but Park was allowed to continue and was saved by the bell.

Though he was in command, Obelmejias did not go for the knockout, and Park tried desperately for a KO in the final round, though Obelmejias was still throwing fast punches.

There was no option clause, so Park, also the former IBF titleholder, will not get a rematch. That's best as Park probably would not want to take another bad beating from the Venezuelan.

Promoter: Thomas (Hyun-Chi) Kim's Dong-A Promotions.

TV: MBC in Korea.
(5-23-88)

▶**ULSAN**—Ulsan Gymnasium—Having been stopped by Hiroki Ioka in the final round in his quest for the WBC strawweight title in Japan on January 31, ex-IBF world titlist Kyung-Yun Lee, 107¼, made his first appearance since and disposed of Indonesian Nico Thomas, 105¼, at 0:59 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10.

Lee unexpectedly hit the deck from Nico's southpaw left in the opening session and was barely saved by the bell. Kyung-Yun came back and landed a countering right, flattening the tough Indonesian. Lee is 12-1 with five knockouts. Thomas fell to 4-5-1 with three kayoes.

Tae-Yong Koh, 146¾, became the new Korean welterweight champion by finishing the defending champ Sang-Joo Park, 147, at 1:36 of the sixth round of the semifinal 10.

Promoter: Palpal Promotions.
(4-30-88)

▶**SUWON**—Suwon Indoor Gymnasium—Korean junior lightweight champ Jin-Shik Choi, 132, showed good punches in combination, dropped Filipino Momong Mana-ay, 131, twice and knocked him out at 1:32 of the sixth round in a scheduled 10.

Choi is 21-2 with 19 knockouts. Mana-ay slipped to 26-6-4 with eight KOs.

The semifinal witnessed Sang-Do Chung, 152¾, seize the Korean junior middleweight title by a unanimous decision over Sung-In Lee, 154, in 10. Chung, who had failed to wrest the OPBF throne via a decision to Carlos Elliot in the previous year, is 14-4 with four kayoes. The loser dropped to 10-3 with eight KOs.

Promoter: Saeki Promotions.
(5-5-88)

▶**ULSAN**—Ulsan Indoor Gymansium—Unbeaten bright prospect Sung-Kil Moon, the WBC's 10th-ranked super flyweight, 116¾, ran his unblemished log to 6-0 with as many knockouts as he banged out Indonesian lefty Oky Pedros, 116, floored and halted him at 1:58 of the fourth round of a scheduled 10. Moon, who had demolished Robert Shannon in the Los Angeles Olympic Games four years ago, is scheduled to have a crack at the WBA bantamweight title now held by Thai **Kaokor Galaxy** in Korea August 14. It was his tuneup go, and he displayed his vaunted aggressiveness throughout the shortened affair. Pedros turned his back as he absorbed more punishment after beating the count in the fatal session. The loser, Indonesia's top bantamweight contender, is 6-2-1 with a kayo.

Chil-Sung Chun, the WBC's ninth-ranked lightweight, 136¼, easily caught Thai Samor Donjadee, the country's top junior lightie, 136¾, at 2:28 of the third round of a scheduled 10.

Bi-Won Chung, the WBC's 24th flyweight, 112½, decisioned Min-Ung Suh, 111¾, in 10.

Eight rounders: Unbeaten flyweight Yun-Un Chin, Korean top contender, 114¼, showed his sharpness in stopping Yong-Gu Chi, 114¾, at 1:10 of the fourth round.

Ki-Jun Lee, 123¼, halted Hyo-Myung Yuh, 123½, at 2:28 of the second session.

Bang-Houn Lee, 132, outpointed Tae-Man Chang, 132¼.

Tae-Hwan Bae, 161¾, knocked out Bong-Hwan Oh, 163¾, at 1:52 of the third session.

Yong-Kang Chang, 142¼, drew with Yong-Soo Kim, 141¾.

Promoter: Palpal Promotions.
(6-5-88)

▶**SEOUL**—Palpal Gymnasium—Undefeated Tae-Shik Chun, this year's winner of the Korean Novice King tourney, 127¾, kept on boring in and caught Filipino Hilbert Aragon, 127¼, with a volley of punches, stopping him at 1:43 of the third session in a scheduled 10.

Chun was named the Best Winner of the Tourney to be ranked fifth by the KBC, and this was his first experience to fight in a 10-rounder. He looks promising.

Chun is 9-0 with seven kayoes. Aragon impaired to 16-3-1 with five KOs.

Kum-Soo Yuh, 110¼, extended his unbeaten log to 11-0 with four kayoes as he defeated Filipino Nilo Endic, 110, by a uanimous decision in eight.

Promoter: Kangpo Promotions.
(6-5-88)

JOE KOIZUMI & YOO-CHANG KIM

PHILIPPINES

▶**MANILA**—Araneta Coliseum—"Golden Boy" **Rolando Bohol**, 112, impressively defeated Cho-Woon Park, former OPBF titlist of Korea, 111½, by a 15-round, onesided decision to retain his IBF world flyweight throne before 15,000 spectators.

Bohol floored the challenger with a smashing left in the first round and had him on the verge of knockdowns in the ninth, 14th and final rounds. Rolando, piloted by Papa Sarreal, completely controlled the fight with his superior speed and skills. He also bloodied the nose and left eyelid of the game Korean, which became a great handicap for the loser.

Scoring: referee Chuck Williams (US) 148-134, John Cauchi (Australia) 149-133 and Pascual Ingusan (Philippines) 149-133 (the same as the second judge), all for the defending champ.

Bohol had wrested the IBF title via a split but well-received triumph over Korean Chan-Ho Choi last January 6. Rolando, 21, improved his credentials to 23-2-1 with three kayoes. Park, also 21, fell to 19-4-3 including five knockouts.

Former WBC world super featherweight champ **Rolando Navarrete**, 133, after a four-year layoff in jail in Hawaii, returned to ring warfare and made a fine comeback by stopping Elmer Leonardo, the Filipino #8 contender, 136, at 0:50 into the second round of a scheduled 10.

Dropping the victim with his vaunted southpaw left, Rolando followed it up by connecting with heavy rallies. The fight was stopped then and there.

Paquito Opinio, 122, finished Mac Espanola, 122, at 1:45 of the 10th and final round.

Promoter: Laura S. Elorde.

(5-6-88)

▶**OZAMIS CITY**—Rod Naiconi, ranked third by the GAB (Games and Amusements Board, the commission of the country), 114, eked out a split decision over Jun Torregosa, also 114, in 10. Baby Murillo refereed.

Promoter: Reynaldo Yabut.

(4-2-88)

▶**DAVAO**—Young Abaloyan, the GAB's #2 featherweight, 130, was awarded a majority decision over Boy Ligas, also 130, in 10.

Ruel Indombingo, 118, also won a majority duke over Robinson Cabusao, 118, in 10.

Francis Velasquez, 126, won from Ronnie Abian, 126, in 10.

Leo Ramirez, 108, TKO'd Oscar Traya, also 108, in eight.

Promoter: Joel Obsioma.

(4-3-88)

▶**CAVITE CITY**—Willie Bernadas, 128, polished off Fil Malatag, 128, in the fourth round of a scheduled 10.

Mario Meracap, 123, was given a technical decision over Baco Marinez, 120, in the fifth canto in a semifinal 10.

(4-9-88)

▶**MINDORO**—Cris Saguid, 124, disposed of Fernando Palad, 124, at 2:45 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Abraham Chavarria.

(4-9-88)

▶**KAPATAGAN**—Alvin Salud, 128, managed to win a split decision over Noel Tata Ariosa, also 128, in 10. Baby Murillo refereed.

Speedy Jack Comen, 108, unanimously decisioned Danny Malhin, 109, in 10.

Promoter: Roberto Rodrigo.

(4-9-88)

▶**VILLANUEVA**—Ali Albaracin, 128, stopped Pol Franco, 129, in the seventh session of a scheduled 10. Billy Abato refereed.

Promoter: Ben Ompec.

(4-10-88)

▶**REAL, QUEZON**—Jessie Solis, the Filipino #2 lightie, 135, pounded out a unanimous nod over Elmer Leonardo, 134, in 10.

Ariel Duran, 132, halted Gary Milanes, 132, at 2:25 of the fourth session in a supporting 10.

Promoter: Grego Garcia.

(4-10-88)

▶**SANTANDER, CEBU**—Erwin Guevarra, 130, unleashed lefts and rights to a helpless Poker Pelegrino, also 130, and halted him at 2:35 of the seventh session in a scheduled 10.

Arnold Lumando, 120, was awarded a split verdict over Jeper Pahayahay, also 120, in eight.

Rocky Marcial, 111, won from Pearlie Yuson, 110, in eight.

Promoter: Luciano Babiera Jr.

(4-14-88)

▶**MANILA**—Araneta Coliseum—Former IBF flyweight champ **Dodie Boy Penalosa** proved still a great attraction by drawing some 20,000 fans in his comeback fight since dethroned by Korean Chan-Ho-Choi via a kayo route last September. Penalosa, 112½, scored a onesided decision (100-88, 100-90 and 100-91) over tough Thai Kwanjai Sorpenpith, 111½, in 10. The loser absorbed much punishment.

Former Filipino junior flyweight titlist Tacy Macalos, 111, showed his strength in finishing Lukmingkwan Rittichai, Thailand, 110½, at 1:25 of the fourth round in the semifinal 10.

Felix Enero, 121½, stopped Joe Aporado, 121½, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

Cobra Ari Blanca, 116½, was awarded a technical decision over Joseph Ladipe, 117½, in the fifth round of a scheduled 10.

Rolando Protacio, 113, demolished Rex Rapiso, 112½, in the second session of the first 10.

Promoter: Uniform Inc.

(4-15-88)

▶**ANAHAWAN, SOUTH LEYTE**—Jun Villablanca, 120, eked out a split nod over Steve Nerza, 120, in 10. Juliano Alayer refereed.

Promoter: Marcel Juban.

(4-16-88)

▶**TAGUM-UM Gym**—Dadoy Andujar, 116¼, won a TKO victory over Pat Bracero, 115, in the third session of a scheduled 10.

Allan Morre, 112, halted Rico Siodora, 109, in the eighth round in a semifinal 10.

Eldie Paradero, 115, TKO'd Rey Paciones, 117, in the fourth canto of a scheduled 10.

Flash Semine, 119, eked out a split duke over Roy Polard, 120, in 10.

Roger Gamayot, 109¾, unanimously decisioned Laime Nedera, 115, in the first 10.

Promoter: Ranilo Terania.

(4-16-88)

▶**BAGUIO CITY**—Filipino lightweight champ Bernabe Aliping, 136, was an aggressor from the start and pounded out a unanimous decision over Lito Pena, ex-titlist, 135, in a 10-round non-title bout. It was the 22-year-old Aliping's first appearance since he dethroned Rod Sequenan via a third-round TKO in the previous month.

Ramon Wasi, the top junior lightweight contender, 129, was also a unanimous points winner over Freddie Panerio, 130, in 10.

Paquito Openo, 124¼, pummeled Andy Dumpayan, 123, into submission at 1:20 of the ninth session in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Raffy Panagan.

(4-16-88)

▶**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**—Gold City Coliseum—Filipino junior flyweight champ Sonny Vidal, 108, made the face of ex-WBC international kingpin Little Baguio, 109, into a bloody mess and won a unanimous decision in 10. The 19-year-old Vidal, who had upset Tacy Macalos on a TKO win, showed his best in the sixth round as he had the loser at bay.

Danilo Mapalad, 108, earned a split nod over Jongjong Perez, 108, in 10.

Frank Domino, 132, halted Flor Galicia, 131, at 2:45 of the fourth session in a scheduled 10.

Jimmy Jimenez, 118, TKO'd Roy Ansungay, also 118, in the fourth canto of a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Carlos Almirante.

(4-16-88)

▶**VALENCIA, BUKIDNON**—Roger Vicera, 113, took a unanimous decision from Ruel Durano, 113, in 10.

John Medina, 110, won from Loloc Elloren, also 110, in 10.

Lito Butra, 118, was held to a split draw by Danny Lumanog, also 118, in 10.

Promoter: Ramon Siaty.

(4-19-88)

▶**PARANAQUE**—Elorde Sports Complex—Boy Granciosa, 124, battered Jun Llano, 122½, so effectively that the latter retired at the end of the sixth round in a scheduled 10.

Nilo Endic, the GAB's 10th-ranked flyweight, 110, managed to win a split decision over Ronnie Vallescas, 109, in 10.

Billy Endrena, 121½, drew with Celso Arreglo, 120½, in 10.

Promoter: Laura S. Elorde.

(4-20-88)

▶**PINAMALAYAN, OR. MINDRO**—Cris Saguid, the Filipino#9 featherweight contender, 126, pounded out a unanimous nod over Willie Bernadas, 126, in 10.

David John, 124, won from Ronnie Solis, 124, in a unanimous eight.

Promoter: Abraham Chavarria.

(4-25-88)

▶**QUEZON CITY**—Celebrity Sports Plaza—Crowd-pleasing battler Bert Pucay, 128, fought his way to a unanimous decision over Rudy Cabiles, 128, in 10.

Miguel Arrozal, 119½, halted Tom Ramos, 120, at 2:27 of the seventh round in a scheduled 10.

Ric dela Paz, 128, took a split duke over Danilo Contado, 128, in 10.

Vic Galme, 110½, won from Roger Oficina, 109½, in eight.

Promoter: Tomasa Pamilosa.

(4-25-88)

▶**GENERAL SANTOS CITY**—Filipino bantamweight champ Loremer Pontino, 118, displayed his vaunted power punching and disposed of Elmer Cubillas, 118, in the fourth round to retain his national crown in a scheduled 12. Siasico refereed.

Little Campo, 133, won over Luis Milado, also 133, in 10.

Kid Tavera, 124, drew with Emiliano Alferez, 124, in 10.

Kid Kanashiro, the GAB's sixth-ranked flyweight, 115, impressively knocked out Cesar Perez, 115, in the ninth round of a scheduled 10.

Eduard Adame, 110, won over Jun Tidalgo, 112, via a late kayo in the 10th and final round.

Promoter: Natividad Baugbog.

(4-23-88)

▶**LUPON, DAVAO ORIENTAL**—Romy Ceniza, the Filipino #7 mini-flyweight, 108, fought to a majority draw with Loloc Elloreen, 108, in 10.

Nathan Ballerda, 110, won over Edward Wagas, 110, in a unanimous 10.

Promoter: Gabriel Traya.

(4-23-88)

▶**DIGOS, DAVAO**—Ronnie Boy Tan, the GAB's number four junior flyweight, 112, proved too sharp for Ken Java, also 112, stopping him in the fifth round.

Renato Guevarra, 108, TKO'd Pedro Calamba, 108, in the fifth session of a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Emelio Gianag.

(4-24-88)

▶**CAMIGUIN**—Rex Cailing, 110, unanimously outscored Felix Mantos, 111, in 10.

Ronnie Ballientos, 120, stopped Chris Bojos, 121, at 2:00 of the seventh round in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Ben Ompec.

(4-24-88)

▶**MIDSAYA, NORTH COTABATO**—Mario Sumalinog, the Filipino #5 bantamweight, 121, chalked up a TKO win over Nelson Cabig, 120, in the seventh round of a scheduled 10.

Ric Apatan, 118, unanimously decisioned Speedy Sidong, 118, in 10.

Joel Solina, 118, TKO'd Ariel Deloso, 118, in the fifth round of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Benhur Bedia.

(4-24-88)

▶**SALUG, ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE**—Jun Arbas, 125, fought to a technical draw with Mac Espanola, 124, at 1:35 of the opening session in a scheduled 10.

Jun Torregosa, 116, was also a TKO victor over Jun Edward, 116, at 1:42 in the eighth session of the semifinal 10.

Promoter: Reynaldo Yabut.

(4-24-88)

▶**DAVAO CITY**—Filipino junior welterweight champ Allan Alegria, 139½, floored Jun Ramos, the top contender, 139, in the second round, fought on even terms in the fourth to ninth sessions, but exploded telling shots to finish him in the 10th round in a scheduled 12. Alegria, handled by Andres Ong, previously kayoed the future OPBF champ Sang-Ho Lee and lost a controversial decision to world rated Kyjng-Dok Ahn, both in Korea. If he fights more actively, he will be a threat to the OPBF champ Chul Kang.

Mario Parcon, 116, decisioned Gerry Allawan, 116, in 10.

Nathan Ballerda, 113, stopped Jaime Nederar, 113, in the 10th and final round of the first 10.

Promoter: Jose Alegria.

(4-30-88)

▶**PANABO, DAVAO**—Boy Louperez, 122, chalked up a TKO over Ronie Abian, also 122, in the third round of a scheduled 10.

William Sanchez Jr., 120, was also a TKO winner

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over Tony Bello, 120, in the fourth round in a scheduled 10.

Boy Posadas, 120, halted Boboy Tibayan, 120, in the fourth session of the first 10.

Promoter: Cyrus Tabungar.

(4-30-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

THAILAND

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Having been beaten by Hiroki Ioka in the WBC's eliminator to decide the first champ in the newly created strawweight class last October 18, Mai Thomburifarm, 109, returned to the ring and easily stopped Mongkol Sithsema, 113, in the second round of a scheduled six. Mai is 13-2 with six knockouts.
(4-2-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Thanomsak Sithboabay, the WBA's fourth-ranked junior bantamweight, 117, was bleeding from a gash over the right optic, but had the right eye of Filipino Al Marino, also 117, completely closed and halted him midway in the seventh round of a scheduled 10. A towel was tossed in to save the loser. Thanomsak, former OPBF flyweight champ, is 20-1 with 11 kayoes.

Downmai Sithodom, ex-Thai junior featherweight champ, took a close decision over Thamin Sithseemork, the TBC's junior bantam boss, in eight.
(4-3-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Pornmongkol H. Mahachai, the Thai Commission's fourth-ranked junior bantie, 114, defeated Derntup Mortemchamnana, also 114, in six.
(4-4-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Downrun Technicutaradit, the TBC's top flyweight contender, 116, found it easy to demolish Lauchai Kiatsonthaya, also 116, in the third session of a scheduled six. Downrung is 15-3-1 with 10 kayoes.
(4-7-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Tantavan Vongvianyai, the TBC's ninth-ranked bantamweight, 116, knocked out unknown rookie Sanphol Silphkorn, 114, in the second session of a scheduled six.
(4-9-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Maphai Narchavat, the Thai #3 junior bantamweight, 114½, won a split decision over Raveenoi Sorvarapin, 115, in six.

Maphai is 5-0 with three knockouts.
(4-11-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Saksing Singkrungthon, the TBC's #4 bantamweight and a prohibitive favorite, 121, dropped an upset decision to a simon pure named Chucherd Eausampan, 120, in six surprising rounds. Chucherd, from Galaxy Gym, got ranked seventh newly in the Thai ratings thanks to this triumph.
(4-13-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Kajkong Danthoothai, the WBC's 12th-ranked strawweight, 107, gave a lesson to very amateurish Visanuchai Kiatsonthaya, 108, stopping him in the fourth round of a scheduled six. No other words were necessary to describe the fight but a mismatch as the loser fought for the first time in his life.

Kajkong is 7-0 with five kayoes.
(4-14-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Former Thai junior featherweight champ Dejvarin Hollywood made a comeback after a two-year layoff under his new name of Mike Hollywood. The 34-year-old veteran, 133, proved still strong by disposing of Pongsak Newflametree, 135, in the second round of a scheduled six.
(4-15-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Baramit Singdownkanong, the TBC's fourth-ranked bantamweight, 115, easily polished off Kaopongnoi S. Thaveerat, 114, in the second session of a scheduled six.
(4-17-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Jimmy Sithfaidang, 125½, successfully kept his Thai featherweight title by disposing of Ayuthaya Singphakamroon, 125, in the fourth round of a scheduled 10. Jimmy knocked him out thrice, including one in their first encounter with the vacant title at stake. This is his second defense, which means Jimmy has not defended his crown against any other challenger but Ayuthaya.

The champ is 12-2 with eight kayoes.
(4-20-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—San Nortochor, 115, seized the vacant Lumpinee Stadium's title by scoring an upset kayo of Tepratum Eakchatchingchai, 115, in the fifth round of a scheduled 10. The title was relinquished by the retirement of Surasith Meeprasert.

Tepratum, now 21-3 with 17 kayoes, had been a prefight favorite, but the underdog was faster and more skillful. San is 8-1 with five knockouts.
(4-26-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Yuenyong Sithprasong, formerly rated by the WBA, 114, didn't look in good shape and lost a unanimous decision to Den Chuvatana, the TBC's #4 junior bantamweight, 115, in six.
(4-27-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Thai junior flyweight champ Putt Ohyuthanakorn, 107, had a tough time, but barely kept his throne via a split decision over Thanjai Donjadee, 108, in 10. Thanjai scored good body punches from the start, piled up points and floored Putt for the mandatory eight count in the sixth round. The defending champ began retaliating with determined attacks and had him on the verge of a kayo in the final round. Scoring: 96-95 and 97-96, both for Putt, and 97-96 for Thanjai. The loser showed a much better fight against the WBA's 10th-ranked contender, Putt, than expected. Putt is 22-6 with 13 knockouts.
(4-28-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Ratana Singsamang, the TBC's second-ranked featherweight, 125, battered Yuthasak Borkorsor, 126, at will and demolished him in the third round of a scheduled six. Ratana, 19, is 10-1 with five kayoes.
(4-29-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Yingyai Petchvihar, 127, won a unanimous decision over Kwanchai Sorsinantha, also 127, in six.
(4-30-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Thaveelert T. Boonlert, the younger brother of the WBC's contender Mai Thomburifarm, 106, showed his opening attacks and sank Pudpad Sithjula, 105, in the opening round in a scheduled six. Thaveelert is 5-0 with four kayoes.
(5-1-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Pornmongkol Chorvikum, the TBC's fourth-ranked flyweight, pounded out a unanimous decision over Mana Tecnobangapi, 114, in six.
(5-2-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Thai lightweight champ Chan Rungrojana, 140, faced an old ex-champ Jenrub Muangsurin, 140, and proved that the latter's time had been over — with a fourth-round knockout in a scheduled six. Chan, an American born in Thailand, is 25-3 with 23 kayoes.
(5-4-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Trang T. Boonlert, Thai mini-flyweight champ, 106, easily had Kart Pornsorpon, 107, on the deck for the count in the opening session of a scheduled six. Trang is 13-3-1 with six kayoes.
(5-5-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Ded Donjadee, the Thai #2 mini-flyweight, 109, caught less experienced Garnchai Kiatsonthaya, 112, in the third session of a scheduled six.
(5-6-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Eak Donjadee, the TBC's top featherweight contender, 130, chalked up a TKO win over Phansuk S. Surasak, also 130, in the third session of a scheduled six. It looked a mismatch.

Champ Kiatpetch, 118, was less sweaty when he stopped Dech Looksuriya, 117, in the second round of a scheduled six.

Champ (this is his ring name) is 7-1 with seven kayoes.
(5-7-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Noree Jokkygym, Thai junior featherweight champ, 124, almost suffered an upset kayo loss when he hit the deck for a count of nine in the fourth session, but fought back to send Thamin Sithseemork, the national junior bantamweight titlist, 123, to the canvas for the full count in the eighth round of a scheduled 10. Noree is 21-5-1 with nine knockouts. Tamin is 13-7 with six KOs. Neither of the champs' titles was at stake.
(5-11-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Hagler Chuvatana, the TBC's #4 junior welterweight, 140, gave bad beatings and stopped Sandech Sithvichai, 136, in the second session of a scheduled six.
(5-12-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Tantavan Vongvianyai, the Thai third-ranked bantie, 119, took a unanimous decision over Theppitak Sor Nuchanart, 119, in six.
(5-14-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Pornchai Boonthavee, 109, halted Sornchai Kiatsonthaya, 110, in the opening session of a scheduled six.
(5-16-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Mafai Narachavat, the TBC's top-ranked junior bantamweight, easily kayoed Varayuth S. Thepnarong, 115, in the second session of a scheduled six. Mafai is 6-0 with four kayoes.
(5-18-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Thongberm Vongvienyai, the TBC's top-ranked junior lightie, 137, found how fragile a chin his opponent had and demolished it via a first-round kayo over Terdtoon Auesamphan, 139, in a scheduled 10.
(5-20-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Dolya Asamustulya, an Iranian boxer who belonged to the Chitalada camp, 128, kept running away to show his small heart and lost a unanimous decision to veteran Kwanchai Sorsinantha, 128, in six.
(5-21-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—People thought it was a kind of real mismatch, but Trang T. Boonlert, the WBA's ninth-ranked minimumweight contender and Thai champ, 106, was knocked out by an unheralded underdog named Visanuchai Kiatsonthaya, 105, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10. Visanuchai had just one previous fight, having been kayoed by Kajkong Danthoothai, the TBC's top contender. In his second fight, he scored an amazing upset. Trang's title wasn't at stake. He impaired his log to 13-4-1 with six kayoes.
(5-25-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Dangnau Kiat R.D., Thai bantamweight champ, 119, also suffered an upset TKO defeat by Nakaraj Kiatsonthaya, 118, in the sixth and final round.
(5-26-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Thaveelert T. Boonlert, 107, polished off Pornpisnu Pisanuprapa, 107, in the first round of a scheduled six.
(5-28-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Champ Kiatpetch, the TBC's second-ranked flyweight 115, caught old soldier Kaopongnoi Sor Thaveerat, 114, and stopped him in the third round of a scheduled six.
(5-29-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Unbeaten prospect Koban Sithkoochart, 107, found that his opponent was a much better southpaw than he thought when they began fighting and was befuddled so greatly as to lose an upset decision to Veerachai Wongprasert, 108, in six.
(5-31-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**DAPTO**—Leagues Club—Hard-punching Joe Nitiva made short work of defending champion John Bogolin in their state junior light heavyweight title tilt before a packed club.

It was all over in Round Two, just 34 seconds into the round. In Round One, Nitiva, 167½, floored Bogolin, 167. The loser rose at four but went through the ropes at the end of the round, with the bell sounding as the count reached six.

Not fully recovered at the start of the second round, Bogolin was dazed early, so referee Brian McMahon rescued him.

Paul Edwards, trained by a Catholic priest, outpointed perennial loser Joe Knight over six rounds. Edwards scaled 161, Knight 165½. Mick Dunningham refereed.

In another scheduled six, Vito Gaudiosi, 163½, halted Adam Clarke, 167½, in Round Five, the stoppage coming when Clarke sustained a cut nose. Dunningham refereed.

Mario Crisafulli, 139½, outpointed Jody Lindsay, 136¾, over six. New referee Charlie Lucas handled the bout well.

Over four rounds Pas Staffiro, 139¼, halted Brendan Foley, 147¾, in Round Three of a terrific fight. Lucas reffed.

Matchmaker: Frank Axisa.

(5-13-88)

▶**PARRAMATTA**—Leagues Club—Two Australian titles were decided, unbeaten Renato Cornett, 129¾, outpointing defending national junior lightweight champion Tony Miller, 129, in the headliner.

Cornett got away to a good lead, but Miller closed up the action from Round Five on. There were no knockdowns, but it was a good fight with plenty of action.

The scoring of the judges was unanimous, Bernie McMahon and Tony Rok each seeing it 117-114, while Des Bloyd called it 116-113. Trevor Christian refereed.

The other 12-rounder was for the vacant Australian junior featherweight title, Richard Reilly, 121½, outpointing Alan Whitten, 121½, in a very good battle that drew a large shower of money from ringsiders.

The decision was split, McMahon and Bloyd calling it for Reilly, 117-116 and 115-114, respectively, while Rok, seeing it very differently, came up with 120-113, Whitten. Christian refereed.

There was only one other contest on the bill. In a scheduled six-rounder, Tony Marretta, 139¼, stopped Darrel Goodwin, 138½, in Round Two. Goodwin should look for another sport. New referee Gary Dean stopped the bout at 1:35 of the second stanza.

Promoter: Tony Cornett.

Attendance: 1,000 (est.).

(5-28-88)

▶**MOORE PARK**—Horden Pavilion—This site, situated in the Sydney Showground and seating about 5,400, has produced some good promotions. Unfortunately, the crowd on this night was around 1,000, at most.

Headlining was Jeff "Hit Man" Harding, a local light heavyweight thumper, and Jorge Salgado, light heavy champ of Argentina and South America.

Salgado entered the ring rated No. 4 by the IBF and No. 19 by the WBC. Harding was ranked No. 22 by the WBC.

There will have to be a change in the ratings.

Harding ran up his ninth win, eighth by KO, in nine fights when the towel came from Salgado's corner seconds before the bell ended Round Five.

Salgado won one round and did well in the early part of the fifth, but it proved to be a last desperate throw. Harding soon got on top again and was hammering the Argentinian when the towel flew into the ring. Referee Johnny Wright acknowledged it and crowned Harding.

Harding, who scaled 174, later said he learned a lot from Salgado, who weighed 172¾. But Harding, a modest and realistic lad, said he still has a lot to learn and wants to fight opponents who can teach him something.

The not-needed judges were John Bailey, Trevor Christian and Brian McMahon, the twin brother of Bernie McMahon. I have known the McMahon twins for about 20 years, but I'm never 100 percent sure which one I'm speaking to. They married twin sisters, live next door to each other, and share the same phone number!

Over eight rounds, Craig Trotter, 155¾, outpointed Alex Tui, 153¾, in a boxer versus fighter contest. Trotter was the boxer, but there were times he outpunched Tui because he hits faster. Brian McMahon refereed, with Bailey scoring 77-76, Wright, 77-75, and Christian, 77-77.

In another eight, Adam Fogerty, 223¼, halted Arzan Basic, 230¼, in Round Four because of a cut eyelid suffered by Basic. It was a close-in fight all the way, not exciting but Fogerty could develop into a good boxer-fighter. McMahon refereed.

Rodney Brown, 147¾, is a good workhorse, and tough, but he ran into trouble against opposing puncher Terry Roberts, 145¾. Referee Christian stopped the scheduled eight in just 1:17 after applying a standing count to Brown.

Billy Duluth, 116½, was too experienced for Wayne Elliott, 120½, halting him in Round Five of a six. Christian stopped the fight as Elliott was being punished.

Promoter: Bill Mordey.

(6-6-88)

RAY MITCHELL

WORLD RATINGS BY THE WORLD BOXING COUNCIL

(As of May, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Champion
Mike Tyson (US)

1. Frank Bruno (England)
2. Trevor Berbick (US)
3. Adilson Rodrigues (Brazil)
4. Michael Spinks (US)
5. Jose Ribalta (US)
6. Carl Williams (US)
7. Razor Ruddock (Canada)
8. Tony Tubbs (US)
9. Orlin Norris (US)
10. Tyrell Biggs (US)
11. Tim Witherspoon (US)
12. Horace Notice (England)
13. Gary Mason (England)
14. Michael Dokes (US)
15. James Douglas (US)
16. Renaldo Snipes (US)
17. Michael Williams (US)
18. Anders Eklund (Denmark)
19. Greg Page (US)
20. Marvis Frazier (US)
21. Mike Evans (US)
22. Jesse Ferguson (US)
23. Dwayne Bonds (US)
24. Larry Alexander (US)
25. Charle Udalor (Nigeria)
26. Jerry Halstead (US)
27. James Pritchard (US)
28. Alex Stewart (US)
29. Phillip Brown (US)
30. George Foreman (US)

CRUISERWEIGHTS

Champion
Evander Holyfield (US)

1. Carlos De Leon (Puerto Rico)
2. Bert Cooper (US)
3. Michael Greer (US)
4. Teoufik Balbouli (Mauritania)
5. Patrick Lamumba (Kenya)
6. Glenn McCrory (England)
7. Sammy Reeson (England)
8. Daniel Netto (Argentina)
9. Jose Maria Flores (Uruguay)
10. Angelo Rottoli (Italy)
11. Olian Alexander (US)
12. Lee Roy Murphy (US)
13. David Russell (Australia)
14. Anthony Witherspoon (US)
15. Elijah Tillery (US)
16. Tony Fuliangi (Tonga)
17. Ralph Rocchigiani (Germany)
18. Arthel Lawhorne (US)
19. Spencer Chavis (US)
20. Jorge Dascola (Argentina)
21. Tee Jay (Ghana)
22. Magne Havnaa (Belgium)
23. Alfonzo Ratliff (US)
24. Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
25. Steve Marmino (US)
26. John Bogolin (Australia)
27. Andre McCall (US)
28. Nate Miller (US)
29. Eric Curry (US)
30. Robert Daniels (US)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Champion
Don Lalonde (Canada)

1. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
2. Tony Willis (US)
3. Tom Collins (England)
4. Dennis Andries (England)
5. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
6. Ramzi Hassan (US)
7. James Kinchen (US)
8. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)
9. Eddie Davis (US)
10. Alex Blanchard (Holland)
11. Jean Marie Emebe (France)
12. Bobby Czyz (US)
13. Richard Caramanolis (France)
14. Jesse Shelby (US)
15. Willy Featherstone (Canada)
16. Uriah Grant (Jamaica)
17. Willie Edwards (US)
18. Lotte Mwale (Zambia)
19. Jorge Salgado (Argentina)
20. Chris Reid (US)
21. Tarmo Uusivirta (Finland)
22. Jeff Harding (Australia)
23. Jeff Thompson (US)
24. Frankie Minton (US)
25. Mike Sedillo (US)
26. Miguel Moana (Argentina)
27. Mwshu Beye (Italy)
28. Lenny LaPaglia (US)
29. Mario Melo (Argentina)
30. Rodrigo Benech (Uruguay)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Champion
Thomas Hearns (US)

1. Michael Nunn (US)
2. Iran Barkley (US)
3. Lindell Holmes (US)
4. Herol Graham (England)
5. Troy Darrell (Bermuda)
6. Michael Olajide (Canada)
7. Roberto Duran (Panama)
8. Mike McCallum (Jamaica)
9. Robbie Sims (US)
10. Jose Quinones (Puerto Rico)
11. Juan Roldan (Argentina)
12. Frank Winterstein (France)
13. Michael Watson (England)
14. Chris Tiozzo (France)
15. Kevin Watts (US)
16. Tony Thornton (US)
17. Doug DeWitt (US)
18. Mark McPherson (US)
19. Matt Farrago (US)
20. Don Lee (US)
21. Sanderline Williams (US)
22. Davey Hilton (Canada)
23. Ricky Stackhouse (US)
24. Davey Moore (US)
25. Nigel Benn (England)
26. Tim Williams (US)
27. Jose Da Silva (Brazil)
28. Hugo Corti (Argentina)
29. Paul Whitaker (US)
30. Larry Musgrove (US)

SUPER WELTERWEIGHTS

Champion
Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)

1. John Mugabi (Uganda)
2. Don Curry (US)
3. Lupe Aquino (Mexico)
4. Carlos Elliott (Japan)
5. Robert Hines (US)
6. Darrin Van Horn (US)
7. Duane Thomas (US)
8. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
9. Milton McCrory (US)
10. Al Long (US)
11. Buster Drayton (US)
12. Chris Pyatt (England)
13. Troy Waters (Australia)
14. John David Jackson (US)
15. Saad Skouma (France)
16. Jose Varela (Germany)
17. Ramon Ramos (Argentina)
18. Rene Jacquot (France)
19. Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)
20. Jun-Sok Hwang (Korea)
21. Herman Cavesuela (US)
22. Francisco De Jesus (Brazil)
23. Nino La Rocca (Italy)
24. Steve Little (US)
25. Julio Cesar Vazquez (Argentina)
26. Royan Hammond (US)
27. Enrique Areco (Argentina)
28. Elio Diaz (Venezuela)
29. Jorge Castro (Argentina)
30. Tomas Perez (US)

WELTERWEIGHTS

Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (England)

1. Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)
2. Tomas Molinares (Colombia)
3. Mark Breland (US)
4. Rollin Williams (US)
5. Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)
6. Kirkland Laing (England)
7. Jorge Vaca (Mexico)
8. Helio Santana (Brazil)
9. Derrick Kelly (US)
10. Fujio Ozaki (Japan)
11. Miguel Arroyo (Argentina)
12. Young Dick Tiger (US)
13. Dio Colome (Dominican Republic)
14. Tyrone Trice (US)
15. Vincent Pettway (US)
16. Sung-Ho Chang (Korea)
17. Marcello Di Croce (Argentina)
18. Hector Hugo Vilte (Argentina)
19. Mauro Martelli (Switzerland)
20. Romulo Casamonica (Italy)
21. Donovan Boucher (Canada)
22. Antoine Fernandez (France)
23. Rocky Kelly (England)
24. Hugh Kearney (US)
25. Gary Jacobs (US)
26. Felipe Canela (US)
27. Glenwood Brown (US)
28. Aaron Davis (US)
29. George Collins (England)
30. Armando Rodriguez (Venezuela)

SUPER LIGHTWEIGHTS

Champion
Juan Coggi (Argentina)

1. Harold Brazier (US)
2. Meldrick Taylor (US)
3. Rene Arredondo (Mexico)
4. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
5. Kung-Sik Kim (Korea)
6. Cassius Clay Horne (US)
7. John Meekins (US)
8. Rodolfo Gonzalez (Mexico)
9. Howard Davis (US)
10. Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)
11. Mauricio Rodriguez (Mexico)
12. Frankie Warren (US)
13. Engels Pedroza (Venezuela)
14. Hugo Hernandez (Argentina)
15. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
16. John Montes (US)
17. Vincent Releford (US)
18. Loreto Garza (US)
19. Vinny Pazienza (US)
20. Thomas N'Kalankete (France)
21. Ronnie Shields (US)
22. Tyrone Crawley (US)
23. Allan Allegria (Philippines)
24. Hong-Kyu Lim (Korea)
25. Mauricio Ronzoni (Italy)
26. Jose Luis Saldivia (Argentina)
27. Tony Jones (Australia)
28. Rodolfo Batta (Mexico)
29. Mickey Ward (US)
30. Tudor Boiggs (Nigeria)

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Champion
Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)

1. Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)
2. Pernell Whitaker (US)
3. Terrence Alli (Guyana)
4. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)
5. Edwin Rosario (Puerto Rico)
6. Primo Ramos (Mexico)
7. John Duplessis (US)
8. Amancio Castro (Colombia)
9. Chil-Sung Chun (Korea)
10. Alberto Cortes (Argentina)
11. Rafael Pineda (Colombia)
12. Frankie Randall (US)
13. Cubanito Perez (US)
14. Bong-Chun Park (Korea)
15. Livingstone Bramble (US)
16. Rene Weller (Germany)
17. Freddie Pendleton (US)
18. Juan Rosario (Puerto Rico)
19. Jesus Romero (Argentina)
20. Darryl Tyson (US)

21. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
22. Vernon Buchanan (US)
23. Sakad Petchyindee (Thailand)
24. Fidel Rivera (Argentina)
25. Victorio Belcher (US)
26. Shelton Le Blanc (US)
27. Steve Boyle (US)
28. Luca Di Lorenzi (Italy)
29. Akwai Addo (Ghana)
30. David Gonzalez (US)

SUPER FEATHERWEIGHTS

Champion
Azumah Nelson (Ghana)
1. Lester Ellis (Australia)
2. Mario Martinez (Mexico)
3. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
4. Francisco Tomas da Cruz (Brazil)
5. Roger Arevalo (Mexico)
6. Barry McGuigan (Ireland)
7. Harold Knight (US)
8. Lupe Suarez (US)
9. Tyrone Jackson (US)
10. Johnny de la Rosa (US)
11. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
12. Juan Laporte (Puerto Rico)
13. Kamel Bou Ali (Tunisia)
14. Jim McDonnell (England)
15. John Sichula (Zambia)
16. Jose Rivera (Mexico)
17. Oscar Bejines (Mexico)
18. Tony Lopez (US)
19. Julio Miranda (Argentina)
20. Tony Pep (Canada)
21. Jean-Baptiste Mendy (Senegal)
22. Eduardo Galan (Argentina)
23. Jackie Beard (US)
24. Museta Bingunia (Zaire)
25. Pat Cowdell (England)
26. Piero Morello (Italy)
27. Shin-Heung Lee (Korea)
28. Gino Gelormino (US)
29. Pascual Aranda (US)
30. Sam Akromah (Ghana)

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Champion
Jeff Fenech (Australia)
1. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
2. Hector Lopez (Mexico)
3. George Navarro (US)
4. Maurizio Stecca (Italy)
5. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
6. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
7. Javier Marquez (Mexico)
8. Samart Payakarun (Thailand)
9. Robert Rivera (Puerto Rico)
10. Miguel Francis (Argentina)
11. Jose Marmolejo (Panama)
12. Byung-Soo Park (Korea)
13. Sidney Dal Rovere (Brazil)
14. Bernard Taylor (US)
15. Jeff Franklin (US)
16. Antonio Rivera (Puerto Rico)
17. Lenny Valdez (Mexico)
18. Jose Mario Lopez (Argentina)
19. Nelson Rodriguez (Puerto Rico)
20. Joe Ruelas (US)
21. Steve Cruz (US)
22. Jorge Paez (Mexico)
23. Tony Miller (Australia)
24. Cha-Seug Oh (Korea)
25. Mitsuro Sugiya (Japan)
26. Mario Alberto Rodriguez (Mexico)
27. Javier Camacho (Mexico)
28. Ruben Dario Palacio (Colombia)
29. Genaro Hernandez (US)
30. Theerapong Surphoomipak (Thailand)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHTS

Champion
Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
1. Seung-Hoon Lee (Korea)
2. Valerio Nati (Italy)
3. Loris Stecca (Italy)
4. Jesse Benavides (US)
5. Louie Espinoza (US)
6. Downmai Sithkodom (Thailand)
7. Steve McCrory (US)
8. Luis Mendoza (Colombia)
9. Jorge Ramirez (US)
10. Mark Horikoshi (Japan)
11. James Pipps (US)
12. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Republic)
13. Pedro Decima (Argentina)
14. Hi-Yun Chun (Korea)
15. Jorge Urbina Diaz (Mexico)
16. Daryl Thigpen (US)
17. Jesus Salud (Hawaii)
18. Prayoonsak Muangsurin (Thailand)
19. Para Mamadou (Ivory Coast)
20. Julio Gervacio (Dominican Republic)
21. Harold Petty (US)
22. Lio Arikawa (Philippines)
23. Robert Shannon (US)
24. Noce Lukman (Indonesia)
25. Paul Banke (US)
26. Irving Mitchell (US)
27. Alberto Mercado (Puerto Rico)
28. Raul Martinez (Mexico)
29. Porfirio Hernandez (Mexico)
30. Enrique Sanchez (Dominican Republic)

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Champion
Miguel Lora (Colombia)
1. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
2. Alberto Davila (US)
3. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
4. Hurley Snead (US)
5. Raul Perez (Mexico)
6. Chang-Yung Park (Korea)
7. Chun Huh (Korea)
8. Wilfredo Vazquez (Puerto Rico)
9. Frankie Duarte (US)
10. Luisito Espinoza (Philippines)
11. Takuya Muguruma (Japan)
12. Tadeshi Shimabukuro (Japan)
13. Edgar Monserrat (Panama)
14. Ray Minus (Bahamas)
15. Israel Contreras (Venezuela)
16. Pepilio Valdez (Mexico)
17. Gaby Canizales (US)
18. Fernie Morales (Mexico)
19. Chang-Kyun Oh (Korea)
20. Jang-Keun Oh (Korea)
21. Alberto Martinez (Mexico)
22. Frank Cedeno (Philippines)
23. Tae-Yul Seo (Korea)
24. Chanquito Carmona (Mexico)
25. Doo-Bak Cha (Korea)
26. Joao Cardosa (Brazil)
27. Yun-Chun Min (Korea)
28. Vincenzo Belcastro (Italy)
29. Billy Hardy (England)
30. Johnnes Matshemual (Indonesia)

SUPER FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Gilberto Roman (Mexico)
1. Juan Carazo (Puerto Rico)
2. Santos Laciar (Argentina)
3. Baby Sugar Ramos (Colombia)
4. Kiyoshi Hatanaka (Japan)
5. Juan Polo (Colombia)
6. Yoshiyuki Uchida (Japan)
7. Armando Castro (Mexico)
8. Orlando Canizales (US)
9. Chang-Ho Choi (Korea)
10. Sung-Kil Moon (Korea)
11. Rubin Condori (Argentina)
12. Thanomsak Sithbaobay (Thailand)
13. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
14. Kongtoranee Payakarun (Thailand)
15. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
16. Michael Parris (Guyana)
17. Eudo Bermudez (Colombia)
18. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
19. Hi-Sup Shin (Korea)
20. Woongsoo Indrajit (Indonesia)
21. Elvis Alvarez (Colombia)
22. Chiaki Kobayashi (Japan)
23. Dong-Choon Lee (Korea)
24. Roland Gomez (US)
25. Dae-Yong Park (Korea)
26. Byun-Kwan Chung (Korea)
27. Jossy Amnifu (Indonesia)
28. Kogi Nishikawa (Japan)
29. Ciro Cayetano (Mexico)
30. Eddie Rangel (US)

FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Sot Chitalada (Thailand)
1. Duke McKenzie (England)
2. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
3. Yul-Woo Lee (Korea)
4. Miguel Mercedes (Dominican Republic)
5. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)
6. Soon-Joong Kang (Korea)
7. Shunichi Nakajima (Japan)
8. Javier Lucas (Mexico)
9. Emil Matsushima (Japan)
10. Tony de Luca (US)
11. Kenji Matsumura (Japan)
12. Nana Konadu (Ghana)
13. Ray Medel (US)
14. Hideaki Kamishiro (Japan)
15. Paul Gonzales (US)
16. Oh-Kong Son (Korea)
17. Willie Salazar (Mexico)
18. Dave McAuley (England)
19. Rae-Ki Ahn (Korea)
20. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
21. Fernando Varguez (Mexico)
22. Dodie Penalosa (Philippines)
23. Carlos Salazar (Argentina)
24. Bi-Won Chung (Korea)
25. Angel Rosario (Puerto Rico)
26. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
27. Franco Cherchi (Italy)
28. Julio Gudino (Panama)
29. Claudemir Dias (Brazil)
30. Pat Clinton (England)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Jung-Koo Chang (Korea)
1. German Torres (Mexico)
2. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
3. Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)
4. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
5. Yong-Kang Kim (Korea)
6. Jose de Jesus (Puerto Rico)
7. Hideyuki Ohashi (Japan)
8. Agustin Garcia (Colombia)
9. Marco Demarco (Argentina)
10. Katsumi Komiyama (Japan)
11. Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)
12. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
13. Chang-Woo Hong (Korea)
14. Seiji Tomari (Japan)
15. Benedicto Murillo (Panama)
16. Little Baguio (Philippines)
17. Jose Luis Zepeda (Mexico)
18. Tacy Macalos (Philippines)
19. Luis Menzote (Cuba)
20. Julio Cardona (Mexico)
21. Sonny Vidal (Philippines)
22. Tomohiro Kiyuna (Japan)
23. Felix Marti (Dominican Republic)
24. Putt Oyuthnakorn (Thailand)
25. Yasutaka Sakurai (Japan)
26. Gilberto Sosa (Mexico)
27. Carlos Orobio (Panama)
28. Kwanjai Sorpengie (Thailand)
29. Toribio Riascos (Colombia)
30. Virgilio Chifundo (Panama)

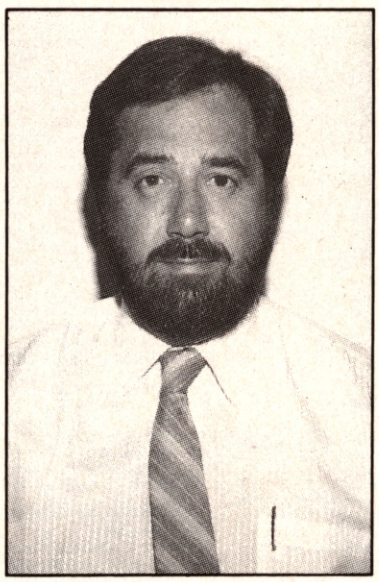
STRAWWEIGHTS

Champion
Hiroki Ioka (Japan)
1. Kyung-Yung Lee (Korea)
2. Sung-Woo Lee (Korea)
3. Pretty Boy Lucas (Philippines)
4. Santiago Mendez (Mexico)
5. Javier Varguez (Mexico)
6. Francisco Montiel (Mexico)
7. Eric Chavez (Philippines)
8. Efren Pinto (Mexico)
9. Ricardo Lopez (Mexico)
10. Asawin Sordusit (Thailand)
11. Jose Lagos (Argentina)
12. Kajkong Danphoothai (Thailand)
13. Mai Thonburifarm (Thailand)
14. John Arief (Indonesia)
15. Javier Alonso (Mexico)
16. Hector Patri (Argentina)
17. Sam-Joong Lee (Korea)
18. Trang Boonlerd (Thailand)
19. Nelson Purisima (Philippines)
20. Yasuo Yogi (Japan)
21. Eugenio Oviedo (Colombia)
22. Kenji Yokozawa (Japan)
23. Nico Thomas (Indonesia)
24. Uriel Londono (Colombia)
25. Norikazu Kawana (Japan)
26. Nana Suhana (Indonesia)
27. Jung Alterejos (Philippines)
28. Rey Hernandez (Mexico)
29. Rolando Protacio (Thailand)
30. Raul Rios (Mexico)

IN THIS CORNER

by Jay N. Miller

AL VALENTI (Promoter)



THERE'S A FRESH YOUNG FACE WITH A venerated old name on the promotional scene in New England.

Al Valenti is the grandson of Rip Valenti, the legendary Boston promoter who played a major role in Marvelous Marvin Hagler's ascension. With that impeccable pedigree, Al is determined to revive boxing in Boston, and in Boston Garden in particular. And if recent history suggests the odds are against him in sports-saturated Beantown, Valenti has enthusiasm in abundance, a canny sense of how to use the media and the willingness and resources to take a plunge.

While boxing has always been a part of the 37-year-old Valenti's environment, he didn't become directly involved in the sport until the Hagler-Roberto Duran matchup.

"I asked my grandfather if I could do two of the closed-circuit locations," recalled Valenti. "Both sold out."

Valenti expanded his closed-circuit work for the Hagler-John Mugabi and Hagler-Thomas Hearns fights and eventually promoted his own live card.

"We sold upwards of a million dollars worth of tickets for Hagler's three big bouts," said Valenti, proudly. "Duran, Hearns and Leonard. My first (live) card was a Mickey Ward fight in Lowell a couple years ago, which I did with Top Rank. Obviously, being Rip's grandson opened a lot of doors for me, but I took pride in being able to work with my granddad. It was a tremendous learning experience."

Like Rip, Al has maintained a strong bond with the Petronelli Brothers stable.

"There's years of friendship and affiliation there," said Valenti. "And it's easy to call them because you know they have seven guys ready to go. I also enjoy working with Gabe LaMarcha of the Somerville Boxing Club and Lou Savino out of Providence. There are fighters around here who can sell tickets ... Ward, Steve Collins, Frankie DiOrio ... and the Petronellis have a couple with real potential, Pomerson Iffel and Dave Rivello. So you can fill one side of a card right away, but then you have to scramble to find them opponents."

The relative proximity of Atlantic City and the lure of the better-paying cable TV bouts makes for a tough market for the New England promoter.

"It's so easy for people to bring their kids to Atlantic City, it's hard to cultivate the local fighters. My thought is that you can do shows in the city where the headliner is from — Ward in Lowell, Rivello in Attleboro or John Rafuse in Malden — and other people will be content to watch it on live TV, but the people in that city will turn out."

In March Valenti brought boxing back into the Boston Garden for the first time in over six years, importing Irish middleweight champ Sam Storey to defend against Dublin native Collins, with Robbie Sims in the co-feature.

"That Irish title at stake made people want to come," said Valenti. "On St. Patrick's Day, I knew I was taking a minimal risk with that fight and my break-even point was about 2,000 people."

Collins decisioned Storey for the title, Sims won his comeback bout, and the turnstiles clicked to the tune of 3,954 fans. Better yet, in Valenti's view, the card captured the imagination of the local press.

"We had 24 different media people attend that fight card, which is great because it's like a fraternity and that interest will build."

New Boston Garden chief Larry Moulter has worked with Valenti to revive the old building as a boxing mecca, and Valenti noted, "We both made money on the last card on what had been an open date for them." This fall, the Garden celebrates its 60th anniversary and Moulter has let Valenti know a topnotch boxing show should be part of the festivities.

With that in mind, Valenti has his eye on Sims rematches with Iran Barkley or Doug DeWitt. Valenti also hopes to match Collins with Galway's Sean Mannion next St. Patrick's Day in a battle that would split Boston's Irish community down the middle. There is also talk of bringing Barry McGuigan to Boston.

For smaller shows, Valenti has fallen in love with Boston's Park Plaza Hotel, a posh setting likened to a casino showroom.

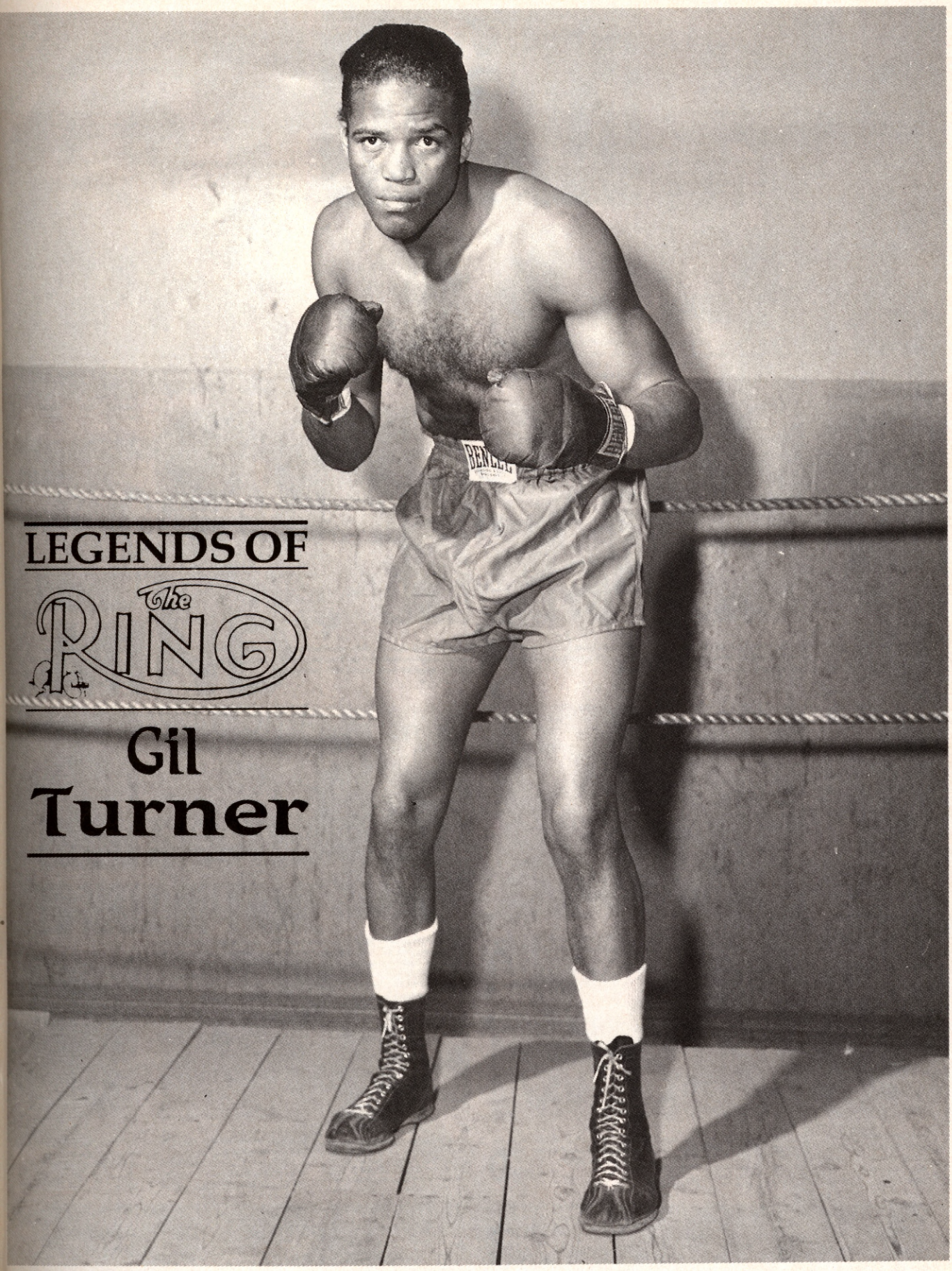
"The Park Plaza holds 1,200 people, the rent is reasonable, it's a great room and it opens up the whole possibility of corporate business tie-ins. I think I've found a home there."

Veteran observers, such as Frank Lehan, are impressed with Valenti's drive and knowledge of the Sweet Science.

"Al is trying very hard to revive boxing, and with his family it's easy to see where he got the bug for it," said the Administrative Assistant to the Massachusetts Boxing Commission. "Actually, his father (Alfred) has the promoter's license and he is technically the matchmaker, but his dad is not too well so Al's been doing all the work.

"We only have three active promoters right now, that's how tough it is ... John Gagliardi, Doug Pendarvis and Al," added Lehan.

But Valenti concluded, "I'm much more hopeful than I was a year ago. If we could get Sims and Barkley here in November, maybe with Ward and Rivello on the undercard, and tie it in with a ceremony honoring great athletes who've played in that building — Bobby Orr, John Havlicek, etc. — we could hopefully show Bob Arum and Top Rank that we can bring five, or 6,000 people in here regularly for boxing." □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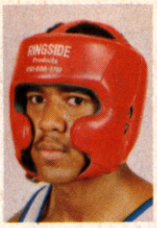

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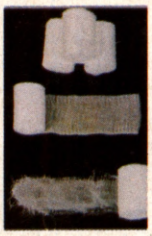

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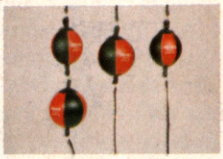

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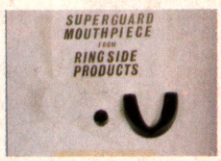

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